

MOST UP-TO-DATE CALENDAR IN NEW ENGLAND!

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One of the things that the national gay and lesbian rights movement has to acknowledge is that the revolution in the movement has essentially occurred on the local level.



It seems to me that one of the things that organizations have to do is to make a commitment to the community and not just to the organization.

Virginia Apuzzo: NGTF

Women Endorse King AIDS-Related Discrimination

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Women's Caucus Endorses King

A Tale of Two Candidates' Nights

By Larry Goldsmith

BOSTON — "This is the first time we know of in Boston history," said Diane Balser, a member of the Women's Alliance for Boston Elections (WABE), "that such an event is taking place, that all candidates are being asked to devote their attention solely to women's interests."

"Hello sisters, this is really nice," said Socialist Workers Party mayoral candidate Eloise Linger, the sole female candidate on the ballot. "This is the first candidates' night I've been to where I feel my campaign could have written the questions."

The occasion was a WABE-sponsored candidates' night for mayoral contenders, held at the Boston YWCA on August 18, the evening after a major televised debate hosted at Faneuil Hall by the League of Women Voters. The two events, held back to back, offered highly contrasting views of the race to succeed Kevin White. At Faneuil Hall, candidates acted out a traditional political drama, with well-prepared but typically superficial statements in support of "fiscal responsibility" and "quality education." The

WABE forum, itself carefully structured to allot each candidate equal time and opportunity for questions, more closely resembled a community discussion. Possibly because the subject matter of the candidates' night on women's issues was more closely defined, candidates on both sides of the issues were forced to speak in greater detail, showing more clearly the difference between individual contenders. And, of course, the WABE event required that each of the candidates confront a set of issues most often neglected, if not ignored, throughout mainstream political campaigns, offering a new perspective on the mayoral field.

* * *

Nearly every card-carrying placard carrier in town could be found outside of Faneuil Hall on the hot summer night of August 17, and every camera-, microphone-, and notebook-carrying reporter in town was there to record their presence. The debate held special significance as a televised forum and carried the weight of its sponsors, the League of Women Voters and the Greater Boston

Chamber of Commerce. But the attention of the media and the public had ironically been turned to the debate not by the presence but by the absence of three of the participants. Claiming that the large field of nine candidates would prove too unwieldy for the debate format, the League of Women Voters had announced that Eloise Linger and radical right-wing candidate Michael Gelber would be excluded from the debate for lack of "demonstrable voter interest." Mayoral candidate Mel King announced that he would boycott a debate in which any candidate was excluded.

Linger and Gelber each staged demonstrations outside Faneuil Hall, and King appeared just before the debate began to read a prepared statement to the press.

"As a black person I am acutely aware of what it means to be a victim of exclusion," King said. "As a Bostonian I know what it is to live in a city crippled by racism and bigotry, the absolute extremes of exclusion. How could I in good conscience participate in a debate when two legally qualified candidates have been excluded, and still

believe this was a fair and open exchange?... Tonight, words and actions must come together. Rhetoric must be reconciled with behavior."

King's steadfast commitment to principle led Boston *Herald* political columnist Peter Lucas to the curious conclusion, published two days later, that "Mel King may have been morally correct in boy-

cotting the discriminatory debate, but he missed all the fun, and made a political mistake. Morality and politics do not frequently make for good bedfellows."

Inside Faneuil Hall, under the heat and glare of television lights, the six remaining bedfellows offered their views and answered questions on money and schools.

Continued on page 15

AIDS Budget Doubled

By Sue Hyde

WASHINGTON — The federal government's ante on AIDS research funding for fiscal year 1984 more than doubled on August 17. Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) Margaret Heckler announced that her department's funding request will be \$39.9 million for AIDS research, a \$22.2 million increase over the original request of \$17.7 million. Amounts between \$50 million and \$100 million for AIDS spending have been proposed by officials of the Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL) and the National Gay Task Force (NGTF) (see *GCN*, Vol. 11, No. 2).

Although short of budget proposals from the gay and lesbian community, the increase is another indication that the Reagan Administration is paying more attention to the AIDS crisis. This summer has been a series of meetings between gay and lesbian activists and Administration officials, beginning with a June 21 White House conference between representatives of NGTF, a man with AIDS and a presidential assistant. Since then, other meetings

have taken place with Health and Human Services officials. Representatives of gay organizations and men with AIDS offered testimony before a congressional subcommittee on August 1 and 2.

President Reagan has also signed into law the \$7 billion supplemental appropriations bill, which included an additional \$12 million for AIDS research in 1983.

The Administration's funding strategy is that, rather than appropriate new funds, officials have opted to divert money from other programs. So the additional FY'84 proposal of \$22.2 million is to be transferred from a fund for rural development and the National Health Services Corps, should the budget be approved.

Rep. Henry Waxman (D-Cal.), in a prepared statement, said, "I'm glad the Administration has finally conceded that more money is needed for AIDS research." but he also called the fund transfer "shortsighted and unfortunate."

— filed from Boston

Complaint Filed for AIDS-Related Bias

By Peg Byron

NEW YORK — Columbia University is expected to back down on a policy to refuse employment to people with AIDS in an out-of-court settlement with Lambda Legal Defense, attorneys for the lesbian and gay public interest law group told *GCN* on August 24. Attorneys fear the case represents one of many civil rights abuses against lesbians and gay men which may arise from AIDS panic.

Lambda filed a complaint on behalf of an anonymous gay man thought to have AIDS who had previously earned high marks from his supervisor in Columbia's music department. After he took time off for graduate work at New York University, the department was willing to rehire him, but Columbia's personnel office blew a sour note by stating that no one with AIDS need apply.

Lambda charged Columbia was discriminating against persons with physical handicaps in violation of federal contract compliance law. Lambda took the case to the U.S. Department of Labor Contract Compliance Office and to the New York City Civil Rights Commission. Theoretically, a finding of discrimination at the federal level could result in the withholding of federal contracts from Columbia. However, while "New York City expedited this case from day one" according to Lambda's attorney on the case, Arthur S. Leonard, federal bureaucrats refused to put it ahead of their backlog. Nonetheless, Columbia's fear of bad publicity will probably outweigh its fear of AIDS. Leonard said he expected to reach a settlement with the University by August 29.

This agreement will be a message to Columbia and other employers that "they can't base policy on what the New York *Post* says about AIDS," Leonard said.

He added that Columbia might also have feared lawsuits from students and other employees if AIDS had spread at the University.

Columbia's press office refused to acknowledge that it ever had a policy against people with AIDS. And public information director Fred Knubal read a statement over the phone to *GCN* that "the University will deal with any prospective or current employees who have AIDS on a case-by-case basis." University lawyers refused to comment on the case.

Lambda and other gay and lesbian legal advocates around the country warn that AIDS will be used against lesbians and gay men in many kinds of civil rights cases. Pat Maher of Lambda said other employment cases include United Airlines, which has "dismissed at least one flight attendant in New York."

She listed a handful of other employment cases and also housing and child custody situations, of which she had heard rumors from other attorneys. Lambda is working in anticipation of problems with insurance companies and on confidentiality guidelines for research studies, particularly at the Centers for Disease Control. "Now that gays can be called a public health hazard," Maher said, "AIDS will come up in every lesbian and gay rights case."

A formal announcement of a settlement with Columbia is still forthcoming. Attorney Arthur Leonard describes his client's actions as "heroic" and expects Columbia will rehire him. There is more good news for the complainant whose doctors now say he may not have AIDS after all.

Groups that may be contacted about possible AIDS-related discrimination are:

ACLU Lesbian/Gay Rights Project, Los Angeles (213)

487-1720; Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders, Boston (617) 426-1350; Lesbian Rights Project, San Francisco (415) 621-0675; Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, New York (212) 944-9488; National Gay Rights Advocates, San Francisco (415) 863-3624; Texas Human Rights Foundation, Houston (713) 526-9139.

No Space for NAMBLA

By David France

NEW YORK — The Horatio Alger Chapter of the North American Man/Boy Love Association (NAMBLA) has run out of spaces in which it can hold regular meetings, according to spokespeople from that organization, and has been forced to suspend their meetings indefinitely. Members of NAMBLA believe that their constitutional right to assemble has been called into question, especially because of the rejections by lesbian/gay and movement spaces in the city.

"It's been very, very frustrating," said Dave Ingalls, spokesperson for NAMBLA. "For more than three years, we have been trying to find a permanent meeting place — this is not a new problem. Some places have refused outright to rent to us. And others have rented to us first and later they've thrown us out."

In most cases, according to Ingalls, the reason given for evictions from or denial of the use of meeting spaces is simply that the managers of the buildings don't want to associate with NAMBLA. Other spaces have been unavailable or have ignored NAMBLA's inquiries, which may or may not be subtle refusals to rent to the local chapter, Ingalls said.

Washington Square United Methodist Church, a "pro-

gressive" institution which regularly rents space to lesbian and gay movement groups, including Black and White Men Together and Dykes Against Racism Everywhere has never opened its doors to NAMBLA.

An officeworker there, who asked to remain anonymous, explained to *GCN* that allowing NAMBLA to use facilities would represent a great liability to any organization which chose to do so. He founded his belief in what he called the "lesson learned" at the 1979 NAMBLA Membership Conference held in New York at the Church of the Beloved Disciple, another religious institution which has frequently allowed its space to be used by gay groups. During that meeting, a news reporter and television crew attempted to enter the hall, and when NAMBLA members resisted, an angry report on the group was filed and the Church of the Beloved Disciple was identified as a sponsor of NAMBLA.

David Thorstad, co-founder and sometime spokesperson for NAMBLA disagrees with the officeworker because such a theory "makes it sound that at one point everybody was friendly with NAMBLA and after the thing with Channel 7 at the convention, we began to have trouble." He said that, with or without the 1979

media incident, the issue of a meeting space for the organization would have been a difficult one.

Since its formation, NAMBLA has been thrown out of six meeting sites, has been refused by every gay-run or gay-controlled space, and is currently in its third period of inactivity due to a meeting space crisis.

NAMBLA has discussed meeting in members' homes and has decided against it for security reasons. There are occasional threats of violence against NAMBLA and its members, and, according to Ingalls, "we don't want to risk publishing a member's home address for fear that that individual would then become vulnerable to attack." He told *GCN* that the one occasion on which a meeting was held at a member's house, two undercover police officers attempted to infiltrate it.

Interestingly, NAMBLA has been forced to suspend membership meetings just weeks after being voted into the New York City Lesbian and Gay Community Council, this city's fastest-growing coalition — and the International Gay Association.

NAMBLA members ask that anyone with information that might lead to a space rental for their monthly meetings contact them at P.O. Box 174, NY 10018.

News Notes

quote of the week

"I am still a Republican and I am for Ronald Reagan's re-election. He has good views of these (gay) issues."

— Former Maryland Rep. Robert Bauman, recently out of the closet as a gay man, at the American Bar Association convention in Atlanta, Ga., and now an unpaid lobbyist for the Gay Rights National Lobby, Washington, DC.

library seeks seneca peace camp accounts

CAMBRIDGE, MA — The Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America, Radcliffe College, is seeking first-person accounts of the 1983 Women's Peace Encampment at Seneca Falls. They are interested in diaries or journals, letters or any other writing about women's experiences at the Peace Camp.

The Library is a non-circulating research library which documents the lives of American women. It is open to the public.

For more information, contact Diane Hamer, c/o Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe College, 10 Garden St., Cambridge, MA 02138.

gay man runs for northampton city council seat

NORTHAMPTON, MA — Gerry Scoppettuolo, a 36-year-old graduate student at the University of Massachusetts, has declared his candidacy for the Ward 3 city council seat here. Scoppettuolo is a member of the lesbian/gay task force which was formed to look into the harassment campaign conducted throughout this past year against area lesbians. He is also a member of the Pioneer Valley People's Gay Alliance and the Gay and Lesbian Activists.

In an interview with the *Morning Union*, Scoppettuolo said he is running for the council seat to represent lesbians and gay men, but also to advocate for affordable housing, restoration of bus service to shopping areas and establishment of a community center.

A group of progressive political activists, Scoppettuolo among them, has formed the Northampton Citizens' Action Network to promote more participation in local government.

The Committee to Elect Gerry Scoppettuolo can be contacted at: 86 Pleasant St., Northampton, MA 01060.

clerical and technical workers ratify contract with boston university

BOSTON — After three months of bargaining with Boston University (BU) and a groundswell of grassroots support for the union, the membership of the BU local of District 65, United Auto Workers, ratified a contract with the University. (See *GCN* Vol. 11, No. 1) With the new contract, the BU local, representing 802 clerical and technical workers, won a 10.2% wage increase over the next two years, improvements in promotion and job loss language, a commitment from BU to honor the existing affirmative action clause and precedent-setting language on the use of video display terminals (VDTs).

According to chairperson Sue Parsons, the local gained for pregnant women the right to be assigned work away from VDTs for the duration of pregnancy. In an informational letter sent to supporters, Parsons said only one other contract in the country contains similar language.

The BU local, however, failed to gain inclusion of sexual preference in the nondiscrimination language of the contract. According to a union spokeswoman, BU President John Silber is "such a homophobe, he goes nuts over the sexual preference issue."

haitians removed from new york city aids risk list

NEW YORK — Health Commissioner David Sencer and other officials have removed Haitian-Americans from classification as a high-risk group for AIDS. According to the New York *Native*, some health officers in New York believe that the number of AIDS cases in the Haitian community is too small compared to other high-risk groups to continue listing them.

According to some Health Department sources, however, this decision may be politically motivated. Recently, Haitian spokespeople have said that the inclusion of Haitians is unscientific and racist and has caused Haitian-Americans to be discriminated against in employment and housing.

Officials at the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control believe that Haitians should be included in the high-risk groups since the incidence of AIDS is at least ten times higher for Haitian-Americans than for the general population.

The New York City Health Department will continue to collect and publish data reporting the number of Haitian-Americans with AIDS.

gay atheists banned from houston pride march

HOUSTON — The American Gay Atheists are seeking legal counsel in a continuing controversy arising from the four-year ban on their participation in the Houston Gay Pride Parade, accodring to a press release issued by the American Gay Atheists.

The atheist organization was banned until 1988 from marching in the parade because they carried a banner in this year's parade which read "Christians leave a bad taste in my mouth." Parade organizers have also accused group members of "simulating sex acts with an inflatable doll dressed as a nun."

Don Sanders, national director of the group, says that the parade committee refused to let him see the video tape which they say is proof of the irregularities. Sanders also says that the parade committee has refused to meet with him or any member of his organization to discuss the ban.

Since the Houston pride parade on June 26, letters pro and con the atheists' future participation have appeared in the *Montrose Voice*, Houston's gay newspaper.

party raises \$100,000 for aids

NEW YORK — A July 9 cocktail buffet and art auction at the East Hampton home of New York *Times* food critic Craig Claiborne netted over \$100,000 for the Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC). One thousand people paid \$50 each to attend the party and another \$50,000 was raised during the auction. The event was sponsored by the East End Gay Organization for Human Rights. Proceeds will be used to fund the programs of GMHC.

communist workers party courts gay/lesbian community

BOSTON — Rhonda Levine stopped in Boston on August 11 as part of a national tour to reach out to gay men and lesbians on behalf of the Communist Workers Party. Her forum, entitled "Lesbian and Gay Activism in the '80s," was held at the Arlington Street Church.

Levine told the audience that the CWP had repudiated its "line" on gays and lesbians two years ago. She said that CWP now "wants to reflect all progressive aspects of society." Levine also said that homophobic party ideology was reflective of anti-gay prejudice.

Leving advocated strong coalition building with other groups and called for the election of Boston mayoral candidate Mel King.

Other stops on the tour included New York City, Baltimore, Miami, New Orleans and Denver.



let us eat cake

WASHINGTON, DC — A nationwide fundraising campaign for hardhit local citizen groups has been launched by an organization called the First National Let Them Eat Cake Sale, Inc.

Scheduled for October 3, the national bake sale will offer to the general public slices of locally-baked cake in cake boxes with political messages about the effects of Reaganomics. The cakeboxes, in six different styles, have been designed by six political cartoonists, including Jules Feiffer. The event takes its name from Marie Antoinette's infamous retort when she was told the poor of France had no bread: "Well, then, let them eat cake."

Lisa Schwartz, spokeswoman for Let Them Eat Cake, explained that any local group may participate. The national office sells the cakeboxes to local organizers at 15c each. The local group organizes its own community to fill the boxes with cake and sell them at a suggested price of \$2.50. Except for the cost of the boxes, all the proceeds stay in the community and go directly to organizers.

The Mississippi Gay Alliance in Jackson, Miss., is the only gay/lesbian group to date which has contacted the national office to participate in the sale. Schwartz urged that other gay and lesbian community groups contact the national coordinating office immediately. There are 120,000 cakeboxes available for national distribution.

For information, write or call the First National Let Them Eat Cake Sale at 918 F St. NW, Suite 611, Washington, DC 20004, (202) 347-6060.

ann arbor discrimination case dropped by city

ANN ARBOR, MI — The city of Ann Arbor will not issue a criminal warrant against a local restaurant accused of discriminating against three lesbian workers, according to the *Ann Arbor News*.

City Attorney R. Bruce Laidlaw said on August 8 that his office had dismissed charges against the PanTree Restaurant after reviewing reports from the human rights section of the Personnel Department. Laidlaw said there was insufficient evidence that three lesbians had lost their jobs at the all-night restaurant on account of their sexual preference.

A small group of supporters of the PanTree Three, as the women were known, staged a sit-in at the restaurant, but did little to disrupt the business.

One member of a local gay/lesbian group and an organizer of the sit-in said, "It's turned into a tea party."

black support for national gay rights bill

WASHINGTON — 17 of the 71 co-sponsors of the national gay rights bill are black members of Congress, according to the Gay Rights National Lobby. This represents one fourth of the total number of co-sponsors and includes all but three of the 20 members of the Congressional Black Caucus.

women go for the distance

LOS ANGELES — Lesbian ACLU lawyer and former Olympic swimmer Susan McGrievy has filed suit on behalf of 50 leading women runners to force the inclusion of long distance running events in the 1984 summer Olympic games to be held in Los Angeles, according to the *Washington Post*.

Named in the sex discrimination suit are the International Olympic Committee and the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee. The athletes are seeking the inclusion of 5000- and 10,000- meter events in the 1984 games, which already will see the first running of both a 3000-meter event and a marathon event for women.

sex and business guild don't mix

PROVINCETOWN, MA — The only sex toy and pornography shop in this gay resort town was denied membership in the local gay-oriented business guild. Co-owner Louise Gibbs thinks the denial hurts her business.

During the Provincetown Business Guild's (PBG) Carnival Week of August 18-25, PBG promotes the shops, restaurants and guesthouses of its 160 members and raises funds for its next year of operations. P'town's sex shop, Butch and Mary's, is not decorated with the streamers or flying the PBG flag that marks it as a PBG member. Gibbs says the implication of that is she isn't supportive of the gay and lesbian community, which she hotly denies.

"Eight years ago I broke ground in this town. I was the first to sell lesbian and gay-oriented cards, books and records at my store, ISIS Unveiled," said Gibbs.

Preston Babbitt, president of the Guild, said Butch and Mary's was denied membership by the Board of Directors because of a rumor that Gibbs and co-owner Phyllis Jean Campbell were going to set up a "bath-style rooming house with video shows and hourly room rentals" in the upstairs portion of their building on Commercial Street. The idea was never more than a rumor according to Gibbs, who explained that that portion of the building was her home and the roominghouse idea was "ridiculous."

According to Babbitt, the Directors did not want the Guild to be associated with "that kind of business." Gibbs said she was told the Directors did not want her bringing "the Combat Zone to P'town."

The Directors' decision, unsupported by Babbitt, was final and Gibbs and Campbell are no longer interested in joining the Guild.

Only one other applicant to the Guild has been turned down in its five-year history. And that, says Babbitt, was a business which was not actually in existence.

Louise Gibbs maintains that her business is stigmatized by not being in the Guild, especially during Carnival week, when visitors are encouraged to patronize Guild members. She and Campbell have posted a sign on their door which reads, "Denied membership in the Provincetown Business Guild." They hope the sign will serve as a partial explanation of their apparent non-support of the community.

Babbitt, however, said that, as the only store of its kind in P'town, he doubts that Butch and Mary's will be hurt by the Guild's rejection.

Both Gibbs and Babbitt agree that Butch and Mary's is misunderstood by many people in P'town, including some of the women's community. But not all women shun the store. As Gibbs told *GCN*, she "sells pornography to lesbians, dildoes to lesbians and leather to lesbians. . . Gay people support my business."

The Quick Fix for the Districts in Boston

By Larry Goldsmith

BOSTON — When voters here passed a referendum in 1981 calling for the city's existing at-large city councillors and school committee members to be transformed into representatives elected from nine neighborhood districts, minority residents, including lesbians and gay men, celebrated a victory. District representation would insure that areas in the city — particularly neighborhoods with high concentrations of minorities — that had been historically unable to elect representatives to the council or the school committee would at last find some representation in municipal government.

News Analysis

The only problem was, how would the city council draw the district lines? The voters had approved the district plan in the abstract, specifying only that the nine districts be compact (not gerrymandered, that is, into grotesque, politically improbable shapes), contiguous, nearly equal in population and constructed, in this city of neighborhoods, with respect for historical geopolitical boundaries.

A city council committee called public hearings, and maps — dozens and dozens of multi-colored maps, submitted for consideration by individuals, neighborhood groups and political organizations — appeared at meetings throughout the city. Finally, in February of 1982, the committee made its recommendation and the council voted, 7 to 2, to accept the plan. There was still grumbling; no matter how the districts were to be drawn, somebody had to lose something, and it followed with equal inevitability that someone would complain. Most observers simply shrugged their shoulders and began planning campaigns.

One group, however, representing a coalition of plain-

State Representative Thomas Valley:
“That’s not a map for a minority seat, that’s a map for the advantage of one of the district candidates.”

tiffs, filed suit in September in U.S. District Court, challenging the new districts. The Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights, representing a coalition including the Black Political Task Force, the Latino Political Action Committee and the Boston People's Organization, charged that the districts violated the federal constitutional guarantee of “one person, one vote” by limiting the possibility for political influence by minorities. The plaintiffs charged the city with the practices of “packing” (concentration of minorities into as few districts as possible) and “cracking” (breaking up minorities into as many districts as possible) to intentionally dilute minority voting power. The plaintiffs also claimed the districts were invalid because the city council constructed them on the basis of a 1975 state census, rather than the 1980 federal census, which shows major growth in Boston's minority population.

The lawsuit was all but forgotten by politicians and the press until U.S. District Judge Andrew Caffrey issued a ruling on July 26 barring the city from holding an election using the districts. “According to the 1980 federal census statistics,” wrote Caffrey in an 18-page decision, “the population variance for districts in the new district plan for Boston is 23.6 percent and no justification based on any state policy has been demonstrated for this disparity... Good faith cannot displace the one person, one vote requirement!”

Caffrey's ruling threw campaigning, already well under

District 8 candidate David Scondras:
“To assume that on some level I’d be interested in reshaping the district I’ve spent this much energy on is being either coy, ingenuous, or just rationalizing.”

way, into a frenzy of confusion. Most candidates brought their efforts to a virtual standstill, unsure where to campaign for money or votes. For while some thought only minor adjustments should be made to the district lines to bring the district populations into line with the updated census figures, the plaintiffs and their supporters argued for a map with three districts likely to elect minority representatives — one more minority district than in the plan Caffrey ruled unconstitutional. Because minorities constitute roughly a third of the city's population, they argued, three of the nine districts should represent minorities. Such a move would call for major changes in the districts as drawn.

After attorneys for the city lost a bid to have Caffrey's ruling overturned in an appeals court, the city council called a hearing, in the council chambers, to receive public testimony concerning the new districts. That hearing, with the public galleries packed and the television cameras rolling, erupted into a series of bitter and noisy arguments, with minority representatives accusing the councillors of diluting their political strength and councillors blaming the plaintiffs for disrupting the election and causing trouble.

“I’m saying that the people in my district don’t trust the city,” declared Ben Haith, a black community activist running for the council from District 7, a predominantly black part of the city. “Somehow they want to build new districts with old fences.”



Marie Favorito



Larry Goldsmith

City Council Candidates David Scondras (l) and Chris Hayes. The new districts hurt them the most, supporters say.

“It’s upsetting to sit here and have someone insult your intelligence,” retorted Albert “Dapper” O’Neil, an outspoken conservative on the council who opposed district representation in 1981. “When I hear the word minority — I happen to be a white Irish American minority, just as are all the people in this room. And no one minority is more important than another.” O’Neil drew hisses and applause when he suggested that his ancestors hadn’t asked for “handouts,” and again when he referred to the plaintiffs as “carpetbaggers.”

Behind the cross words were a small set of firmly-held but conflicting interests from residents in each district. Representative Thomas Valley (D-Back Bay) represented Beacon Hill/Back Bay liberals in requesting that the two neighborhoods not be split up, as one plan had suggested.

“Obviously, some adjustments are going to have to be made,” Valley told the council. “I stand before you to ask that if District 8 can be kept as it is... we would appreciate that.”

But Valley also criticized the plaintiffs for proposing a map, dubbed the Henderson II map, which would divide Beacon Hill and the Back Bay, putting one chunk of

Scondras: “[Valley] assumes that the minority communities...are not competent to determine what their own best interest is. To me that’s really condescending and arrogant.”

Beacon Hill with Charlestown and East Boston in District 1 and the rest of the two neighborhoods with South Boston in District 2.

In an obvious reference to District 8 council candidate David Scondras, who is also a plaintiff in the lawsuit, Valley charged that “that’s not a map for a minority seat, that’s a map for the advantage of one of the district candidates... I believe it’s been abused, frankly.”

In an interview with GCN, Scondras denied Valley’s accusation, saying he never supported the Henderson II map. “Right now I’m the frontrunner in the district I have,” Scondras said. “I’ve worked for over a year in the district. I’ve spent \$25,000 in the district... To assume that on some level I’d be interested in reshaping the district I’ve spent this much energy on is being either coy, ingenuous, or just rationalizing a position he took at the council hearing.”

Scondras added that he thought Valley’s remarks at the council hearing were racist. “To assume for one moment that the Black Political Task Force...and the Latino PAC... have spent the last three years figuring out a way to help David Scondras is on the one hand fine, I suppose, in that it acknowledges the fact that minorities in the city respect me. But it’s racist... It assumes that the minority community, the community of color, the Hispanic community are not competent to determine what their own best interest is. To me that’s really condescending and arrogant.”

“I think there’s a difference between being lesbian or gay and being a minority,” Valley told GCN. “It sure as hell wasn’t involved in the plaintiffs’ idea of being a minority. I

Valley: “I think there’s a difference between being lesbian or gay and being a minority... I don’t consider David Scondras a minority, I consider him gay.”

don’t consider David Scondras a minority, I consider him gay. And I don’t think those things are mutually exclusive.”

However, in a statement issued shortly after the city lost its case in appeals court, the plaintiffs asked for districts which, among other things, would be “sensitive to all minorities, including the gay community and the Asian community.”

Asked to comment, Valley, the principal sponsor of the Massachusetts gay rights bill, said that “the policy of not pushing for affirmative action for gay men and lesbian women and the policy of not pushing for minority status is

the correct and most successful course the community can take. Further, the present District 8 — both pre-federal court decision and post-federal court decision — clearly will either be represented by someone who is gay or by someone who is sympathetic to gay rights... If you want to make David Scondras the bellwether of what a gay district is, then you should use the [Henderson II] map, but I don’t think you should.”

If Valley didn’t want to see his liberal neighborhood merged with conservative South Boston, neither did the residents of South Boston. And the people from Southie who came to testify at the council hearing also vehemently opposed losing any part of their neighborhood to another district.

Something, somewhere, had to give. The councillors met privately and emerged with a plan: District 2, comprising the South End, South Boston, Bay Village and Chinatown, would lose the tug-of-war on the South End side, giving the St. Botolph Street precinct to District 8. District 8 would gain a precinct encompassing Boston University, populous with students but containing so few voters that Scondras was reportedly able to win the precinct in 1981 with a total of 19 votes. And, in the most unkindest cut of all, District 8 lost two chunks of the Fenway — Scondras’ own neighborhood — to District 7. The council held up the plan for a vote, and passed it quickly and unanimously.

Scondras said he was “furious” at the council’s decision, even though the new District 8 probably insured him more votes. “Numerically, I’m better off,” he told GCN. “It mostly hurts the efforts that have been made over the years to try and maintain the identity of the neighborhood. I think it would be fair to say it was a slap in the face of the Fenway.”

But where David Scondras may have gained a precinct, the South End’s District 2 council candidate Chris Hayes

Plaintiff and South End community activist Alex Rodriguez: “When you look at who really had to pay the price for the new map, it’s Scondras and Hayes. Why? Because obviously they represent districts which are looked at as weaker political districts from which few dollars come and little political clout comes... What you really get is the city council saying ‘screw’ to the constituents.”

lost an important neighborhood in the tenuous balance between the South End and South Boston. “We thought the South End as a community had ended up on the short end of the stick,” Hayes said, noting that the neighborhood has already been gerrymandered into three districts for state representative, two for state senator and two for U.S. Congress. “You’re such a small piece of the voting pattern for any one of those offices that they don’t have to pay any attention to you.”

As for the other candidates in the District 8 race, Mark Roosevelt told GCN he favored “as minimal changes as possible in our district,” and added that he thought the effect of the changes would not be very significant.

Eugenie Beal declined to comment on how the changes would affect the other candidates, but noted that “the main thing is that the people who got to vote on the new districts took care of themselves.”

Dennis Quilty could not be reached for comment.

Alex Rodriguez, a plaintiff in the lawsuit and a South End community activist, summarized his views on the new districts with harsh words for the council.

“When you look at who really had to pay the price for the new map, it’s Scondras and Hayes,” Rodriguez told GCN. “Why? Because obviously they represent districts which are looked at as weaker political districts from which few dollars come and little political clout comes... If you look at the constituents that these people purport to represent, Chris and David, what you really get is the city council saying ‘screw’ to the constituents. To the degree that David represents the gay community and gay constituents, it’s clear that that’s an affront.”

Community Voices

rightful owners

Dear Friends:

I can no longer refrain from sharing my disbelief upon learning that neither Mel King, candidate for mayor, nor David Scondras, for city council, received the BLGPA endorsement. If this is truly indicative of our community thinking I can't understand what has happened to your memory. I regret that I was unable to attend the BLGPA voting night. Had I been able to attend I would have shared these thoughts with you, my community, then.

My first exposure to Mel was several years ago during the first generation of political meetings. Perhaps it was 1975 or 1976. Reverend Troy Perry of MCC was present, as was Elaine Noble (this was before the grueling awareness that Elaine, like David Scondras, could not be all things to all people). Mel stands out in my mind. He spoke extremely slowly, as if the slower he spoke the more emphatic he could be. He reminded us, as voters, that we could become an even more powerful voting block, and Elaine's presence bore witness to that. I remember wondering then why Mel was standing along side us (before it was fashionable to be affiliated with Gays). There were Third World people present who confessed fears to me that Mel was hurting his political career. Pray tell me... where was Larry DiCara during the first generation of politics?!

In September of 1978 Mel King stood with us when Anita Bryant blessed us in Boston with a visit. His message still rings loud and clear in my mind. "If we add up all the Gays, all the Jews, all the poor and working-class, and all the Third Worlders, we are not the minority!" The reality of his statement was personally empowering. He was the only representative I saw at that rally. Once again, Mel stood along side Gays. Pray tell me where was Larry DiCara then?!

In August of 1980 I was privileged to be with my sisters in song and dance and joy and some sadness as we marched through some of the most dangerous part of our city in a "Take Back the Night" march. I will never forget that inner feeling of warmth as we turned the corner from Boylston Street to Massachusetts Avenue and Mel King (and other Third World men) were standing there in a candle light vigil, allying themselves in the only ways then possible. That is the Mel King I remember! Pray tell me... where was Larry DiCara then!

I'm not going to match Larry DiCara's voting record against Mel's because they are not comparable. As should be evident, I believe it is not only how a man votes on Gay issues which matter, but certainly, and more importantly, whether that man is a *true ally*. Unquestionably Mel has repeatedly proven himself to be an unconditionally committed ally!

Why didn't Mel King get the BLGPA endorsement? Why are there individuals and small groups in our community who are not endorsing him? In reading Connie Chan's article on "Speaking Out" (GCN July 23), I am confronted with similar thinking: 1) That people in the city of Boston have not yet challenged their own racism, and 2) that this problem permeates the subculture within it and the city is adversely effected.

Those among us who need to look again at the candidates, please look at qualifications, they must come first. Don't be put off by what I consider Mel's "non-traditional approach to government," look where tradition has gotten us. Those among us who can't see the candidate behind the color and believe that Boston isn't ready for "Black Mayor," think again! Mel King has done more through his alliances to try and create racial harmony in this city than any person I know.

If we as a voting block fail to elect Mel King as mayor I strongly suspect it will be because we were unable to work through our own racism.

Perhaps the most important reason to elect Mel King as mayor, besides all of his obvious qualifications, is because he is *ELECTABLE*. If Gays and women and the poor and the working-class and the Third Worlders and Jews vote Mel King for Mayor he *will* win. Mel King is on the correct side of almost every social issue I can think of that makes him the **ONLY SENSIBLE** candidate for mayor in Boston.

Mel King cares for the people of Boston, his past actions have proven that, don't be confused by the sweet-smelling smooth political style of some of his opponents. When Mel King wins, this city will be returned to its rightful owners... the people who live in it!

Forry Sorgmyr
Jamaica Plain, MA

DOUBLE SPACE YOUR LETTERS!!!

Gay Community News welcomes letters to Community Voices. If at all possible, your letters should be **TYPED AND DOUBLE SPACED and kept to three pages (or less!)** in length. GCN publishes all the letters it receives, unedited, on a space-available basis, unless they contain personal attacks. Anonymous letters will not be published, but names will be withheld upon request. Address letters to:

Community Voices, Gay Community News, 167 Tremont St., 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02111.

israeli women against anti-semitism

Dear Editor:

We are Jewish feminists living in Israel. We feel a need to speak for ourselves and a need to be heard by other feminists around the world. We want to respond within the women's movement to the debate over present Israeli government policy, as well as to accusations of imperialism and racism directed at Israel. Underneath all this lies the basic question often debated in certain feminist circles: Does Israel have the right to exist?

We are here in Israel because we are expressing our identity as Jews and are aware of a long history of anti-Semitism. Israel has not solved that evil, but it is providing a place where Jews can live without the internal threat of expulsion or death which has steadily accompanied us throughout our history. If Zionism means a movement that established and maintains a place that will ensure the survival of the Jewish people, then we are Zionists.

We are feminists who are trying to confront patriarchal violence, racism and sexism, and many times we are appalled at our country just as citizens of other countries are ashamed of their governments' policies. Having to depend on nationhood for Jewish survival (a necessity in the modern world of nation-states) has tragic limitations, but we'd rather be able to live as free Jews in the world than commit suicide for the sake of

what is "politically correct," agreed that committing suicide is *not* politically correct.

We are desperate for peace and search for ways to solve the Jewish-Arab-Palestinian problem. We freely criticize the present government and are not adverse to hearing criticism from the outside. *But our existence is not up for debate.* This debate, however intellectually sound, is anti-Semitism at its worst and a betrayal by our feminist sisters.

We search to enter into dialogue with all concerned persons, and reach out to groups and individuals alike.

We offer support to Jewish and non-Jewish feminists in the Diaspora who feel overwhelmed by anti-Semitic sentiment. We are open to sharing what it feels like to live in Israel.

We offer our search for an open dialogue to all feminists with the clear understanding that our right to exist is a given.

T'NINA: Movement of Israeli Women Against Anti-Semitism
(T'nuat Nashei Yisrael Neged Anti-Shemiut)

4 Histadrut Street
Jerusalem, Israel

To ensure a reply to your response, send a copy of your letter to our organization at the above address.

military

Dear GCN,

I am a former Boston resident living in Heidelberg, Germany, and I enjoy your paper very much. However, an article you printed recently about gays in the armed forces disturbed me very much. Do you mean to say that because we are gay we must blindly accept the "correct" political position concerning the entire gamut of issues? I would rather believe that, as gay *first*, we reach out to help each other regardless of political belief. I know of several cases of gays' lives or records ruined because they were in the armed forces and accused of being gay or "found out." I am sad to see your paper turn its back on these sisters and brothers, and I am especially disappointed in your one-dimensional thinking.

Name withheld
Heidelberg, Germany

News Writer/Circulation Manager

Gay Community News seeks a news writer/circulation manager. Full-time position devotes half-time to each function. Writing experience and organizational skills preferred. People of color especially encouraged to apply. Health insurance, three weeks paid vacation, \$135/week salary. Inquiries and resumes to: Managing Editor, GCN, 167 Tremont St., Boston, MA 02111.

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Coming out for Lesbian and Gay Pride feels good! We hope to see you there. Stop by our GCN table to buy a t-shirt, poster, or soda (no, we haven't come out with a GCN cola...yet). If you aren't a Sustainer yet, this is the perfect time to become one!

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Speaking Out

Epidemic Proportions

By Jim Fishman

1. If they call this disease ours,
and they have,
If they call our lives sinful,
and they have,
If they refuse to treat or touch us,
and they have,
If they attack our right to exist,
and they have,
Then they have not known us.

2. We're doing a talk show. Larry and I. A popular radio show in Framingham. AIDS Action is scheduled between "Gun Control" and "Suicide."
It's 10 a.m. Our first caller — a housewife:
"Homosexuality is the Devil's work. The government shouldn't pay for your sins."
We've brought our brochures. We're here to talk about symptoms, to share knowledge. She's here to talk about sins.
"Do you consider AIDS an epidemic?" asks the host.
"Of course," I answer. "But the bigger epidemic is homophobia."
"What's that?"
I talk about phobias. They're not just afraid of catching AIDS; they're afraid of catching homosexuality. I talk about sex. Sexual expression. I talk about lifestyles. Married men in the suburbs. In the closet. Men who show up with hangmen's ropes in their cars in case their test results show AIDS. But there are no tests, no definitive ones. Not at that early stage. I talk about irrational fears.
I'm trying to sound reasonable, logical, as though I have no fears. Yet the woman over the airwaves wants to lock us up.
A liberal calls:
"I support finding the cause and cure of this tragic illness," she says. "But that young man should realize the majority of Americans cannot condone a deviant lifestyle."
"Deviant?" My throat sticks on that word. "Red-heads are deviant. So are left-handed people. Do you deny them health care?"
It's her serve. "Homosexuality is different. It's repugnant. You're foisting a sick lifestyle on the rest of us — we won't have it."

Community Voices

vigilant fight

To the Editor:

The High Holy Days usher in the Jewish New Year, beginning with Rosh Hashanah and ending with Yom Kippur. During this time, Jewish people the world over confront and make peace with the old year to begin anew. It is a time of introspection and reconciliation; a time to ask forgiveness and to forgive others. We mourn and honor the dead and remember the sanctity of life.

As two Jewish lesbians we ask: why is this Yom Kippur different from all others? This year, the 10th day of Tishri also marks the one year anniversary of the massacres of 3,000 unarmed Palestinian people in the Lebanese refugee camps of Sabra and Chatilla. It was during the Israeli invasion and occupation of Lebanon that they were murdered by the Lebanese Phalange with the complete complicity of the Israeli government.

As Jews we mourn:

- ...the victims of these massacres;
- ...Israel's continuing occupation of Lebanon and the imprisonment of 10,000 Lebanese and Palestinian people;
- ...Israel's and U.S.'s refusal to negotiate with the PLO, and the continued exile of the Palestinian people from their homeland;
- ...Israel's role as a major supplier of arms to repressive dictatorships in Central and South America, and in Africa;
- ...that the Israeli state has chosen to link its survival with this role of oppression. We mourn the effect of that role on the soul of the Jewish people;
- ...our failure as American Jews to criticize Israeli policies and American policies supporting Israeli militarism;
- ...last, and yet the beginning of it all, worldwide anti-semitism; that for thousands of years Jews have been subjected to exiles, pogroms, persecution, and most recently the Holocaust.

The experience of the Holocaust has taught us once again that anti-semitism can erupt at any time to any of us. But the suffering of the Holocaust does not make right the oppression of other peoples. It is the vigilant fight against anti-semitism, not the Palestinians, that will insure our survival.

If you are a non-Jew reading this letter and you are saying to yourself, "Yes, Israel is the most oppressive country," we urge you to look inside a little deeper and check out your own anti-semitism, even if you think you've already dealt with it. Anti-semitism is everywhere; in the right and in the left.

We feel our connection to all Jews and therefore offer this letter in the spirit of the long and continuing tradition of radical Judaism. This Yom Kippur, let us resolve to further educate ourselves about the history and current conditions in the Middle East; push through our fears; discuss the information and our feelings, criticize and let our thoughts be known. May peace and reconciliation become a reality for all of us.

Ruby and Rhea
San Francisco, CA

women's music

To the editor,

I had a very disappointing and surprising experience tonight. I called Michelle of the jazz duo JASMINE (based in St. Louis) to invite them to perform at A Woman's Coffeehouse this fall. Michelle refused the gig because the coffeehouse is *women only*. In my year and a half of doing the bookings, in fact my nearly three years in the collective I have never encountered this refusal. I asked how she could know that she had such lesbian support yet not perform at a lesbian place and she said that they believe in playing for everyone. She thinks "men need strong women role models even more than women do." This is a ridiculous statement and a typically anti-lesbian stance. To me the coffeehouse doesn't exist for, against or even in relation to men's needs, but because the lesbian community wants and needs it. The coffeehouse doesn't exist because a random group of women imposed their ideology on the community, it arose and is now sustained by the fact that women here want women only space. I've booked numerous straight women who had no difficulty understanding or appreciating this and who have relished the experience of playing to our audience.

I questioned Michelle about why Jasmine is willing to play at the festivals which are women only and she said it is because they are "festivals," tributes to artistic women musicians —as if the coffeehouse which works to provide a healthy and cultural space for women on a consistent basis year round, accessible to women without the money, time or inclination to go to the festivals, is not. As if culture only exists on a monumental scale. What a degrading assumption. I take pride in bringing quality performers to the coffeehouse and in helping provide a place that women can, in general, afford to attend regularly. And let's not pretend that the motivation to perform at the festivals isn't widespread exposure and the booking of future tours. So Jasmine can get heard at the big lesbian event and then travel around the country refusing, in turn, to really honor lesbian space. I *resent* performers who have no qualms about supporting themselves on lesbian money and lesbian energy but can't respect the environments lesbians create for themselves. I'm tired of performers who can't utter the word lesbian from the stage even when lesbians produce the entire concert. I think refusing to play at a woman-only space is both insulting and extremely narrow-minded. It is invalidating of lesbian life and lesbian culture.

Amy Lange
A Woman's Coffeehouse
Minneapolis, MN

Have a Question?
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"You don't have to condone us," I counter. "But do you treat us the way the handicapped are treated in this country? Shut away all those who make you uncomfortable? Anyone different?"
Then she pulls out the Bible. Then, "Nature."
I've heard that one before.
Larry adds: "Straight couples are now having rectal sex, too." This exasperates her.
"Do you believe in God?" she asks, finally.
Now we're getting down to brass tacks.
"Yes," I answer. "I do."
Am I on the witness stand? Why am I discussing God on a talk show? Is this why we came? Then I pull out my weapons: Kinsey's findings. *
The continuum of human sexuality. The history of humankind.
The hate calls keep coming:
"This whole country's goin' down the tubes. Read your *Corinthians*."
The hour's up. Commercial break. Suicide is on next.
"It's healthier to air all this hatred now," I tell the host, "than maybe get locked up later."
But as we leave, I'm not consoled.

3. "I've got a victim lined up. Now all I need is a survivor. Can you get me someone whose lover died of AIDS — say, by tomorrow?"
— a television reporter doing a story on AIDS.

"Speaking Out" is part of our continuing effort to provide a true forum of opinion for the community. We encourage you to send your ideas, feelings and comments to us and we encourage you to respond to any ideas expressed in this space. Submissions to "Speaking Out" should be TYPED and DOUBLE SPACED, and, if possible, held to under 5 pages in length. The opinions expressed in "Speaking Out" do not necessarily reflect the views of the newspaper, the staff or the advertisers. Write c/o Speaking Out, GCN, 167 Tremont St., 5th Fl., Boston, MA 02111

elephant queen

To the Editors,

The deposing of Queen Dzeliwe, Swaziland's Ndlovukazi or "She Elephant," saddens many GCN readers. At this sorry moment, let me correct the news note which announced her ascension. (Vol. 10, #15). That note falsely identified her as the late King Sobhuza II's mother. Queen Dzeliwe was, in fact, one of Sobhuza's 70 or so wives (cf. *The New York Times*, August 11, 1983, p. 7). I trust GCN will report the Ndlovukazai's fall kindly, constrained by journalistic objectivity from assailing the rise of her rival, Queen LaDwhala, of course.

Sincerely,
Rick Hillegas
San Francisco

Dee Michel Gets Librarian Drag

Dee Michel first came to GCN in the fall of 1979 to place a classified seeking other gay roommates. He came back to do layout the next day, and never left. He did a lot of proofreading, corrections, paste up and Friday folding for several years.

At a meeting in 1978, Richard Burns, then managing editor, was looking for a

steady volunteer to coordinate microfilm acquisition, and Dee signed on. After the fire, he coordinated the reconstruction of our back issue file from donations by our readers.

Dee's final project at GCN was hand-binding our GCN 1-9 in lovely purple volumes, which now reside at our office. These volumes were presented as a "birthday present" at the Tenth Anniversary Celebration in June.

Dee has been the gadfly of membership meetings, voicing process concerns when others get caught up in the issues. He has written witty letters, speaking outs, and reviews and one famous feature, "We are all Sexual Minorities," which appeared in October of 1982.

Dee leaves us for a year (only one we hope) in order to pursue his master's degree in Library and Information Science (is this part of the CIA???) at Champagne Urbana. Bye Dee, please write!

AIDS Resource List

AIDS Action Committee — 16 Haviland Street, Boston, MA 02115, 267-7573
Education and support group for people with AIDS, their families, lovers, friends and health care providers. Provides speakers, conducts forums, rap groups, hospice-trained volunteers, hotline information and referrals. Associated with the Fenway Community Health Center.

AIDS Action Line — 536-7733
AIDS Action Committee service, information, referrals and befriending about AIDS. Trained volunteers.

AIDS Benefit Review Committee —(267-7573) or (725-4849)
Joint subcommittee of Mayor's Committee on AIDS and AIDS Action Committee to coordinate AIDS fundraisers, monitor process and review results. All groups of individuals planning AIDS fundraisers are encouraged to coordinate their efforts with the subcommittee.

Gay and Lesbian Hotline — 6:00 pm to midnight, M-F (426-9371)
Provides information on AIDS, makes referrals. Associated

with Gay and Lesbian Counseling Services.

Haitian Committee on AIDS in Massachusetts — 117 Harvard Street, Rochester, MA 02124 (436-2808)
Provides information, referrals, support and emergency assistance to Haitians with AIDS and their families.

Mayor's Committee on AIDS — Room 608, Boston City Hall, Boston, MA 02201 (725-4849)
Coordinates efforts of federal, state, and city health agencies, produces educational material, collects data on cases, reviews policy. Umbrella organization. Media outlet. Conducts forums and provides speakers.

National Gay Task Force Hotline — (1-800-221-7044)
Toll free national hotline run by NGTF to provide information and referrals.

Springfield Downtown Ministry /Council of Churches — 293 Bridge Street Room 205, Springfield, MA 01103-1402 (737-4125)
Counseling and referrals.

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Film Orgasmic Death on Film

Liquid Sky
Written by Slava Tsukerman, Anne Carlisle, and Nina V. Kerova. Directed by Slava Tsukerman. Director of photography, Yuri Neyman. With Anne Carlisle as Jimmy and Margaret. At the Nickelodeon.

By Cindy Patton

11 am. Vacation. Bronski calls to see if I want to go to a press screening of *Liquid Sky*. What's that?

Some new wave, lesbian s&m film he says, with lots of sex and violence, right up your alley. I'm a little taken aback. Do you mean sex and violence, or violent sex? I prefer to sun on my roof.

4:37 pm. Bronski again. It's great, you've got to see it. I think it's feminist, but I'd never say that in print. Does it have real, lesbian sex? I ask. Well, no. All the sex is violent. It is really more about violence. I'm still unconvinced.

11 am. Monday. Back at work. Bronski again. They're doing another screening at 2:00 and you

can interview the woman who wrote it tomorrow. Alright. I'm hooked.

4:37 pm. Now I have to write an article that makes some kind of sense of this weird film. I love it, but I'm afraid of getting trashed for seeing it as a feminist film. Maybe I'll just say it's anti-patriarchal. I have a whole dictionary full of cop-outs. What does feminist mean? Maybe I should say it's anti-human. Or maybe I'll say it's nihilist/feminist. Hum. That's a new one . . .

Liquid Sky is a distinctly un-American film; it falls very much in the brechtian tradition. Intricately plotted and elegantly photographed, it deals with extremely critical issues in modern culture, but with a wry, almost absurd humor.

Continued on page 14

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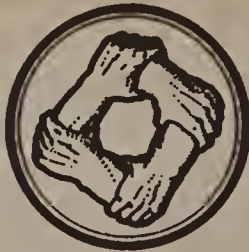
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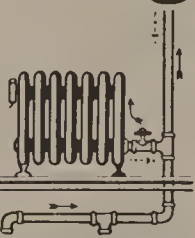
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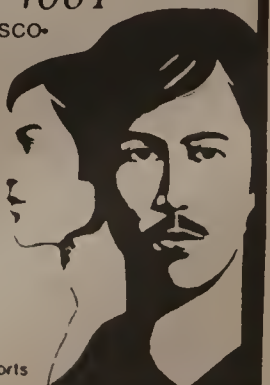
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Film

A Rare New Film on Tradition and Alienation

Freckled Rice. A film by Stephen Ning. With J.P. Wing, Douglas Lee, Arabella Hong, Michael G. Chin. Available from Stephen Ning, 36-62 47th Street, Long Island City, NY 11103.

By S.H.

Steven Ning's 48-minute movie *Freckled Rice* is among the few contemporary portrayals of the lives of Asian-Americans on film or in literature. The surprise and novelty that characterized popular reaction to the novels of Maxine Hong Kingston and the recent surprise movie hit *Chan is Missing* speak more for the popular misconceptions and stereotyping of Asian people in this country than for the fact that these particular works portrayed radical or unusual Asian-American characters or situations. This is not meant to detract from the merits, artistic and otherwise, of Hong's novels or of *Chan*. Nevertheless, the effect of years of racist stereotyping (largely the result of the four U.S. wars against Asian people in recent years and now this uneasy economic competition with Japan) have taken their toll; the portrayal of Asian-Americans as other than faceless, submissive, inscrutable non-individuals — "Orientals" in the popular vernacular — seems new and novel to non-Asian Americans and is certainly a relief and a treat to non-Oriental Asian American people.

The viewer of Ning's *Freckled Rice* may well react along these lines to this pioneering work, the first to be set in Boston's Chinese community. Nonetheless, the merits of *Rice* are remarkable, particularly given the constraints of independent film-making and should not be overlooked. In 48 minutes Ning is able to thread a believable and consistent narrative around a 13-year-old Chinese boy's emerging cultural-identity crisis and in the process address themes of cultural conflict between second and first generation Chinese-Americans as well as issues of race, class and family.

The protagonist of *Rice*,

13-year-old Joe Soo (Boston's own J.P. Wing, now 16), is in the process of being moved out of Boston's Chinatown by his successful businessman father, who is opening a restaurant in New Hampshire. Joe is reluctant to leave and the tensions surrounding the move become a focal point of conflicts with his father. Father Soo (Steve Chen) wants to hold together a tight-knit Confucianist family with Daddy as Supreme Patriarch. He is determined that Joe not go the way of an older rebellious son, Wilson, who has left home and whom he characterizes as "Westernized" and "lost." Joe, American-born and very much a product of public schools, television and baseball, is confused by his father's continual demands to be more Chinese, especially when he is being uprooted from his established relationships and the familiar cultural milieu of Chinatown. At a loss, Joe runs away and visits successively the "lost" brother, Wilson (Michael Chin), and his paternal grandfather (T.K. Liu).

Joe's sojourn from home thus becomes a search for identity as well as his roots. Wilson, the "lost" son, presents the alternative lifestyle of an independent, urban, single working man who has cut his ties to family and community. "Living in Chinatown is like having a thousand fathers," Wilson tells Joe, while in his bachelor pad in what appears to be Brookline he is free to pursue a career, rock 'n roll and a relationship with his (white) girlfriend. The roots are provided by Joe's grandfather, who lives alone on social security in a run-down apartment in Chinatown, ostensibly rejected by his own son. In a fascinating monologue in Cantonese, the old man relates to Joe

how, because he was barely able to support Joe's father, the latter had run away from home at 14 and has lived independently of his father since then. Joe finally decides to return home and is reunited with a slightly more accommodating father.

The themes of rebellion versus tradition, family role expectations versus individual needs, traditional, "ethnic" values versus Western/American/white ways are familiar ones in the lives of children of recent immigrants. Asian traditionalists who find little support for or understanding of their cultural identity in mainstream USA are understandably defensive and react with alarm when their children take on the trappings of the American culture that threatens to obscure their own. On the other hand, those of us Asian men and women who are involved in the gay, lesbian and feminist movements and other anti-authoritarian politics find ourselves vulnerable to accusations of being "Westernized" or of following Western ways because we rebel against oppressive, authoritarian roles in traditional Asian contexts. We have often heard the "homosexuality is a Western perversion" of Chinese conservatives. *Freckled Rice* reminds us that charges of "succumbing to Western ways" is indiscriminately brandished against all of us, not only homosexuals, who rebel against traditionalist restrictions.

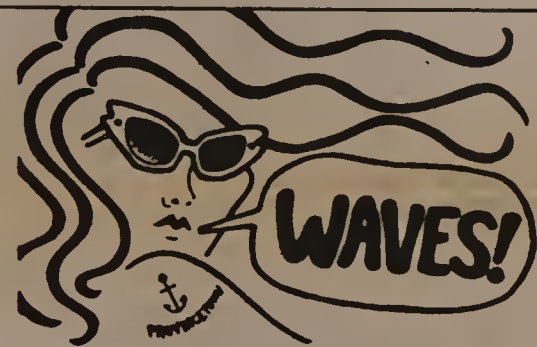
The effective use of both Cantonese and English dialogue in *Rice* is also indicative of this tension between tradition (East) and non-conformism (West). The children and second-generation Chinese in the movie invariably speak English in response to the Cantonese preferred by their

parents, who are mostly bilingual. Joe and his friends are made to attend Chinese classes on weekends, which they resent. For the new Asian immigrant, however, mastery of English often means the opening up of the job market beyond the long hours and low wages of restaurant work, a fact alluded to by Joe's grandfather in explaining his poverty. When Joe's mother loses her temper and accuses her husband of stubbornness and insensitivity in dealing with their children, she lapses into English while her more traditional role as mother and housewife are always expressed in Cantonese. Her cajoling, gossipy tone in Cantonese when she converses with her neighbors resounds with feelings of community and caring indicative of the importance of the supportive cultural milieu that Chinatown offers.

In a culture so obsessed with filial piety and respect for one's forebears, dead or alive, when much of the *raison d'être* for the extended Confucianist family is ostensibly to care for the old and infirm, it is ironic that the end result is that many individuals, old and young, end up as social non-entities and hence uncared for

simply because they do not belong to the monolithic traditional Chinese family. In *Freckled Rice* it is very clear that the ability of Joe's father to assert himself as a heavy-handed patriarch (shades of Padre Padrone) of a tidy Confucian household is the result of a middle-class income. Due to poverty and probably racist immigration laws that restricted his wife's entry into the country, his own father could not similarly maintain a family and is relegated to living alone. The "lost" son, Wilson, having distanced himself from these scheme of things, is certainly reminiscent of the decision of many Asian gay men and lesbians who reject that which has no place for them.

Freckled Rice, made on a budget of about \$40,000 with many location shots in Boston, was well received at a community premiere at the Quincy School in Chinatown a few weeks ago. The actors, some amateur, all gave more than apt performances; of particular note is Arabelle Hong, who played Joe's mother. Although shown cooking most of the time, her performance exuded an unmistakable strength.



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☐= A FRESH START AT THE NATIONAL

One of the things that the national gay and lesbian rights movement has to acknowledge is that the revolution in the movement has essentially occurred on the local level.

By Cindy Rizzo

Some years ago, I got ambitious and decided to do what journalists refer to as a “generic” piece on the National Gay Task Force (NGTF), the most prominent national lesbian and gay civil rights organization in the country. This decision coincided with important changes taking place at NGTF at the time. Both Brucc Voeller and Jean O’Leary, the dynamic and often controversial co-executive directors of the Task Force for some years, were resigning to pursue other interests. Also at this time, NGTF saw the resignation of its media director, Ginny Vida, whose editing of the well-known *Our Right to Love* anthology was widely seen as a strong effort by NGTF to promote lesbian visibility.

Many wondered at that time what would happen to NGTF. Would it or could it continue to spearhead such successful projects as the 1973 American Psychiatric Association decision to declassify homosexuality as a sickness, its important film and television advocacy, its historic White House meetings, and its groundbreaking work with the executive branch of the government?

Voeller and O’Leary were replaced by Charles Brydon, a mainstream gay activist from Seattle and co-chair of the NGTF Board, and Lucia Valeska, a lesbian feminist activist from New Mexico with no previous ties to the Task Force or the national lesbian and gay movement. Financial considerations stalled an effort to replace Vida.

The Brydon-Valeska years were rife with controversy, both within NGTF and in its national gay constituency. NGTF was charged with being out of touch with grass roots organizing and local organizational priorities. Brydon was seen as too conservative, too much of a “good gay.” Programs and accomplishments fell by the wayside and as a result so did fundraising activities and membership. NGTF’s belated support for the 1979 March on Washington seemed to catalyze efforts to put together an alternative national organization. That attempt, known as NOLAG (National Organization of Lesbians and Gays), never got off the ground. So now the U.S. lesbian and gay movement had not one, but two, ineffective national civil rights organizations.

NGTF continued to flounder. It was unable to find

its place in the gay movement of the ’80s and consistently found itself involved in turf arguments with other national organizations such as the Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL). Its effort to align itself with San Francisco’s legal foundation, Gay Rights Advocates (GRA), earned it the wrath of the other gay public interest law firms across the country. Finally, the pressure was on so heavily for Brydon to step down that he did so, leaving Valeska as the only executive director. But the problems were far from over.

Valeska could not effectively manage the day-to-day operations of the Task Force or its Board of Directors, a faction of which became increasingly disenchanted with her leadership. The mutinous rumblings became a roar after Valeska spoke to a gathering of “gay leaders” at a Texas conference and made such a poor showing that an NGTF delegation reportedly walked out of the auditorium. In the end, Valeska stepped down, leaving behind a deeply divided board and an organization in chaos.

Enter Virginia Apuzzo. It seemed to many that Apuzzo was waiting in the wings for the Valeska affair to blow over. She had been named the executive director of the Fund for Human Dignity, NGTF’s tax-exempt funding arm that is concerned with educational projects. A politician who had run unsuccessfully for a seat in the New York state legislature, Apuzzo was winning kudos for her ability to speak to diverse gay and lesbian crowds and win their approval and enthusiasm. Some folks at NGTF saw her as a savior. The Board hired Apuzzo quickly, without a nationwide search, and prayed that she would get things moving again.

And so we come to another crossroads in the history of the National Gay Task Force. At a time when the threat coming from the federal government is the greatest it has been in recent times, the lesbian and gay movement is in desperate need of an organization that will coordinate national efforts to preserve at least the gains made in earlier years. NGTF in the past has demonstrated its ability to provide such leadership. It has also demonstrated its ability to be ineffective. A conversation with Ginny Apuzzo during her recent visit to Boston helps to provide us with some insight into NGTF’s potential as it enters a new stage.

GCN: What was your experience prior to becoming Executive Director of NGTF?

APUZZO: I started cutting my teeth in the movement being a volunteer for NGTF. No, it was even before that, with the Gay Academic Union, which was the first place I got involved. I worked in the Women’s Caucus of the Gay Academic Union and developed regional lesbian feminist conferences...

In 1980, for a few months I was executive director of the Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings. Several months into that, I was committed not to have Reagan be president. It wasn’t so much that I was into Carter, but I was really anti-Reagan... So that’s when I resigned from Administrative Trials and went on the road for Carter, trying to organize the community. Carter did not pay me. By and large, the New York and California community raised money to send me around to try and quantify gay and lesbian involvement in the 1980 election. I did feel a commitment to the fact that the Democratic Party had provided a plank that was very much a part of my own work and the work of others at the convention.

GCN: You came to NGTF through the Fund for Human Dignity?

APUZZO: Yeah, but the Fund is a 501c3 (tax exempt) IRS designation. The Fund is in its sixth year and NGTF is in its tenth year. The connection is that NGTF is an activist, civil rights organization... I am very proud of the fact that when I came to the Fund I tried to urge the board members of the Fund to acknowledge the Fund’s commitment to the community at large and not simply to the National Gay Task Force. By and large, all money that came to the Fund was used for public education projects of the National Gay Task Force. It seems to me that one of the things that organizations have to do is to make a commitment to the community and not just the organization...

GCN: So you continue with the Fund?

APUZZO: I’m executive director of the Fund. And I am executive director of the National Gay Task Force.

GCN: When did you come to the Fund?

APUZZO: I came to the Fund in September of 1981. Six months ago [December 1982] I became executive director of the National Gay Task Force.

GCN: How were you selected? There doesn’t seem to have been an extensive search.

APUZZO: No. They were in crisis. They asked me if I would take the executive directorship while they did a search. I told them that I had no objections to them going through a search, but I would not want to take the job for six months and then hand it over... They made a determination, I think, based on the crisis they were in. They hired me right then and there without going through a search. I guess it was predicated on my performance at the Fund, which at that time I’d been working for for about 14 months...

I don’t think the Board was overwhelmingly delighted with choosing me. I suspect that there are still strong reservations about our philosophies.

NGTF has to look very closely, as does the whole movement, at how we are responding to women’s needs. Right now I cannot say that NGTF has a resounding program that deals with women.

GCN: Would that be one issue that divides you from some of the Board?

APUZZO: I think the past is the keenest issue.

GCN: So it’s not so much a focus on you, but on the transition?

APUZZO: Right, exactly. It was a difficult transition.

GCN: When you say NGTF was in crisis, are you referring specifically to the split on the Board over Brydon and Valeska?

APUZZO: Yes.

GCN: How did that split affect the organization programmatically, financially?

APUZZO: Programmatically, we were in a state where our program people, two or three, left with Valeska. The membership began to decrease. The gay and lesbian press is the only tool to reach our community. And when the press begins to identify problems and there is evidence that there is substance to what is being said, then it forces members to begin to reassess — with so many needs in the community and limited dollars, where are we going to put them? And if they see an organization in crisis they intelligently decide to withhold their support until something happens that looks like there’s stability there...

GCN: Were people frustrated because they weren’t seeing projects coming up and being carried out?

APUZZO: Yes. For example, last week we had a meeting and invited the National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA) and the Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL) to attend a meeting at the State Department to discuss immigration issues. People could say, “Couldn’t NGTF discuss that by itself?” Yes, we could have gone by ourselves. But you take an issue like immigration. I think it’s very important to let an administration that has been less than responsive to us see that three national organizations are united behind the need to reform this issue. And so we get into examples where it’s imperative that the national organizations work together. AIDS is another example where it’s vital, if there’s going to be an appropriations hearing and GRNL can arrange the appropriations hearings, then we show that there’s cooperation...

GCN: Is that also a way of dealing with the historical turf problems between NGTF and these other organizations?

APUZZO: I think the whole issue of jurisdiction and division of tasks is an important distinction to retain. But I think that there are increasingly questions of such complexity that they require our minds to meet and to work in cooperation. Immigration, AIDS, any number of issues on our agenda. It maximizes our potential for success if in fact we work together...

GCN: What programs has NGTF started since you’ve come along?

APUZZO: First of all, on the subject of jurisdiction, traditionally NGTF has had as its area of concern, the executive branch of government. I was dismayed to see that for all intents and purposes NGTF had not approached this administration since Lucia and Charlie sent Reagan a telegram [congratulating him on his election]. And I feel that it’s our responsibility to be bipartisan. No matter what kind of background and experience I have in the Democratic Party as an individual (I retain my First Amendment right to free speech as an individual), but I feel that I have a responsibility to Republican gays and lesbians when I say to them that the Reagan administration has not answered our concerns. I anticipate that they’re going to say, “What did you ask them to do?” And so I want to make sure I’ve gone on record as asking them...

GCN: Do you get hostile responses from the administration?

APUZZO: No, I think there is a level of sophistication in government toward the gay and lesbian community. I think they’re smart enough to agree to meet with us. How much action or muscle they’re willing to put behind our request is yet to be seen. But we owe it to our Republican brothers and sisters to say, “These were our concerns. This is what we laid out.” And we owe it to an administration not to say, “You didn’t ask us.” We ought to ask them.

Boston Notes

The Cultural Scene

Compiled by Michael Bronski

Cultural Quote of the Week

“During the past decade, as some of the recent writings by homosexuals makes clear, a small but influential group of homosexuals developed a way of life that encouraged this kind of satyriasis. Some men felt hindered in their normal growth as homosexuals unless they adopted it for a while; some participated in dreary sexual conformism, regularly meeting in bars to perform rigidly defined and routinized sex moves in the theatrical costume of police or ranch wear.”

— Jonathan Lieberman in “The Truth About AIDS” in *The New York Review of Books*, August 18, 1983.

Gynoflicks

A festival of films produced and directed by women will be showcased September 8 through 11 at the 8th Street Playhouse in New York City.

The **1983 Women’s International Film Festival** is being sponsored by Second Decade Films and the Heresies Collective. It will feature short and feature-length work from the United States, West Germany, the People’s Republic of China, Great Britain, India, South Africa and other countries. Matinee programs will include a multi-racial children’s film workshop (for ages 4 to 9) on Saturday, September 10 and a roundtable discussion on Personal/Collectives Methods on Sunday, September 11.

For a complete schedule of film screenings contact Second Decade Films, P.O. Box 1482, New York, NY 10009.

Out of the Closets and Into the Chorus

The first national **gay choral festival** will be held at New York’s Lincoln Center between September 8 and 11. More than 800 singers in 12 gay and lesbian choruses from all over the country will sing their hearts out with everything from Broadway and pop to folk and classics.

The final evening, September 11, will feature all of the choruses performing the world premiere of two commissioned works by Ned Rorem and Libby Larson.

Ticket prices range from \$8.00 to \$30.00 with discounts available for purchases of two or more performances. For information and reservations call (212) 874-6770.

On Your Toes, For Free

With cutbacks in federal funds for the arts, balletophiles — even those with discretionary incomes — have had a hard time keeping up with ticket prices. Now the last days of summer and **The Boston Ballet** are brining us ten days of free dancing August 25 through September 3.

Each evening will be comprised of four short ballets — including the late George Balanchine’s **Valse Fantasie** — with performances beginning each evening at 8:30 at the Hatch Shell on the Esplanade.

The Political Scene

Compiled by Jeremy Grainger

Feminist Nonviolence Gathering

“Our love goes deeper than our anger” is the theme for a women’s gathering on feminism and nonviolence to be held September 30 through October 2 along the Russian River, about 70 miles north of San Francisco, California.

Possible workshop topics include: **military spending and women’s needs, rape culture and militaristic society, military recruitment of women, preventing burnout, decision-making processes, sexuality, spirituality, building community, and parenting:** single, lesbian, co-parenting, disabled and nonviolent.

The registration deadline is September 15. Total costs are \$30 for women, \$20 for children (3-9). To receive more information contact the Feminism and Nonviolence Program, War Resisters’ League/West, 85 Carl Street, San Francisco, CA 94117. (415) 731-1220.

Parents of Gays Conference

The second International Conference of the **Federation of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays**, Inc. (Parents FLAG) will be held in New York City October 8 through 10 at the

Roosevelt Hotel. The conference coincides with the tenth anniversary of the New York chapter, the first such parents’ group in the country.

Members of over 80 Parents FLAG groups nationwide will attend two days of workshops on issues of importance to parents of lesbians and gay men, including such topics as **How to help parents who have just learned their child is gay** and **Special problems and loneliness faced by teenage lesbians and gays**.

Tell your parents about this conference. For information write Parents FLAG, P.O. Box 553, Lennox Hill Station, New York, NY 10021 or call (914) 793-5198.

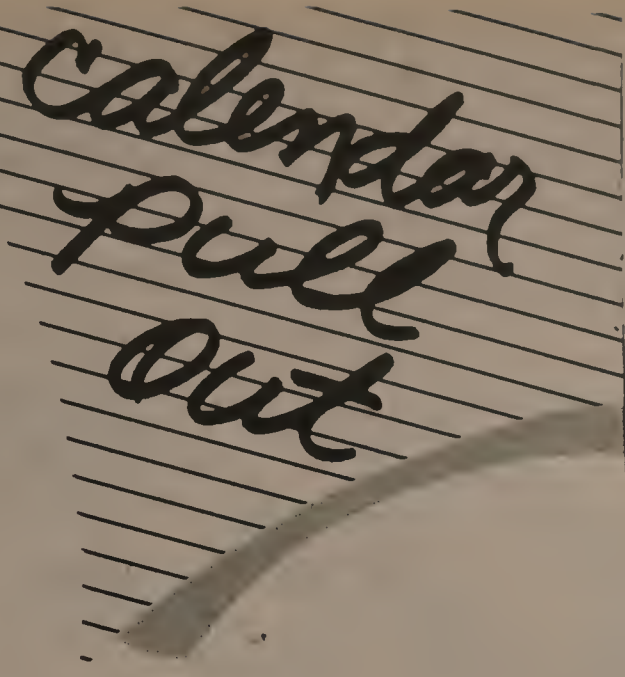
StreetSAFE Fenway

There’s a new public safety project in Boston’s Fenway area which could go a long way toward curbing street violence and crime in that neighborhood, many victims of which are women and gay men.

Among the goals of **StreetSAFE** (Safety-Alliance For Everyone) is to “recruit, train and deploy resident and employee volunteers to observe and patrol local streets, and link them to institutional security and police by radio.”

If you wish to become a Community Watch Volunteer or work on other aspects of the program, call (617) 262-0060. StreetSAFE is a project of the Boston-Fenway Program, Inc. a non-profit organization.

<div>BOSTON-AREA GAY/LESBIAN BUSINESS GUIDE</div> <div>ACCOMMODATIONS</div> <div>OASIS GUEST HOUSE 22 Edgerly Rd., Boston, MA 02115 (617)267-2262</div> <div>WATERSHIP INN P.O.Box 918 7 Winthrop St. Provincetown, MA 02657. (617) 487-0094</div> <div>BOOKSTORES</div> <div>GLAD DAY BOOKSTORE 43 Winter St. Boston, MA 02108 (617)542-0144</div> <div>CHIROPRACTORS</div> <div>DR. EDWARD COHEN Brookline Family Chiropractic Office 1330 Beacon St. Brookline, MA 02146 (617) 734-7744</div> <div>DR. JONATHAN D. STEIN 375 Harvard St. Brookline, MA 02146 (617)232-7200</div> <div>CINEMA</div> <div>ART CINEMA 204 Tremont St., Boston, MA 02111 (617)482-4661</div> <div>NORTH STATION CINEMA 2 175 Portland St. Boston, MA, 02114 (617)227-0513</div>	<div>MEDICAL/COUNSELING</div> <div>TAPESTRY, Inc. 20 Sacramento St., Cambridge, MA 02138 (617)661-0248</div> <div>GAY AND LESBIAN COUNSELING SERVICE 80 Boylston St.#855, Boston, MA 02116</div> <div>FENWAY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER 16 Haviland St., Boston, MA 02115 (617)267-7573</div> <div>JACK CEMPELLIN, M.S. ASSOCIATED COUNSELORS Salem & Copley Square (617) 745-7029</div> <div>GENDER IDENTITY SERVICE OF NEW ENGLAND 136 Causeway St. Hudson, MA 01749 (617) 568-0680</div> <div>FRANCIS GIAMBRONE, MA, COUNSELING 110 Orchard St. Somerville, MA 02144 (617) 628-6988</div> <div>NORTH SHORE CMHC COUNSELING 47 Congress St. Salem, MA 01970 (617) 744-5322</div> <div>PLACE/HOTLINE AND COUNSELING 32 Rutland St. Boston, MA (617) 267-9150</div>	<div>ALLAN SINGER, LICSW PSYCHOTHERAPIST Copley Square Boston, MA 02116 (617) 266-2240</div> <div>COUNSELING ASSOCIATES 23 East Main St. Westboro, MA 01581 (617) 366-8576</div> <div>MASS. BAY COUNSELING ASSOC. 25 Huntington Ave. #331 Boston, MA 02116 (617) 353-0225</div> <div>DENTISTRY</div> <div>DR.RICHARD BANKHEAD DR. PAUL GROIPEN 1259 Hyde Park Ave. Hyde Park, MA 02136 (617) 364-5500</div> <div>JOHN C. BARNA, D.M.D. 739 Boylston St. Boston, MA 02116 (617) 353-1500</div> <div>PODIATRY A HOUSECALL Jeanne M. Arnold, DPM William A. Sandberg, DPM (617) 396-7527</div> <div>INFORMATION/MEDIA</div> <div>XANADU GRAPHICS 143 Albany St., Cambridge, MA 02139 661-6975</div>	<div>LANDSCAPE DESIGN THE BEST LANDSCAPE DESIGN CO. 53 Hawthorne St. Somerville, MA 02144 (617).776-6377</div> <div>REMODELING</div> <div>T.H.E. CONTRACTORS, INC. 36 Pine St. Chelsea, MA 02150 (617) 889-4347</div> <div>HOME REPAIRS</div> <div>GEORGE W. CASPER 47 Waldeck St. Dorchester, MA 02124 (617) 288-3228</div> <div>REAL ESTATE</div> <div>MARK THOMAS CO, LTD Mark Zimmerman Charles St. Boston, MA 02114 (617) 227-2209</div> <div>RACHAEL REALTY CO. INC. 318 Harvard St. #31 The Arcade Building Brookline, MA 02146 277-0230</div> <div>TRAVEL</div> <div>FOREX TRAVEL 76 Arlington St. Boston Park Plaza 482-2900</div> <div>LIMOUSINE SERVICES</div> <div>WAITES ROLLS ROYCE LIMOUSINE SERVICE Christopher Waites (617) 567-0420 (305) 564-1292</div>	<div>WOMEN</div> <div>NEW WORDS BOOKSTORE 186 Hampshire St., Cambridge, MA 02139 (617)876-5310</div> <div>WOMENCRAFTS, INC., P.O. Box 190, 373 Commercial St., Provincetown, MA 02657</div> <div>WOMEN'S BARS</div> <div>THE MARQUEE 512 Mass Ave Cambridge, MA 02139 492-9545</div> <div>SOMEWHERE/ELSE 295 Franklin St. Boston 423-7730</div> <div>GYMS</div> <div>SOUTH END GYM 46 Waltham St. South End, Boston, MA (617)451-3514</div> <div>NEW ENGLAND WOMEN'S GYM 1261 Cambridge St. Inman Sq., Cambridge, MA 497-9776</div> <div><p>This guide provides a listing of gay/lesbian owned, staffed, or supportive businesses and services. To have your business or service listed (for only \$100.00 per year) call 426-4469.</p></div>
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Quick Gay Guide

Boston Area (617)

INFORMATION/SERVICE/SOCIAL

LESBIAN AND GAY HOTLINE (6pm-Mid.) Mon-Fri 426-9371	
BAGALS (Boston Area Lesbian and Gay Schoolworkers)	
P.O. Box 178, Astor St., Boston, 02123	
Black Men-White Men Social/Support Group	
c/o GCN, Box 1, 167 Tremont St. Boston 02111	
BAGLY (Boston Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth,	
GCN Box 10GY, 167 Tremont,	
Boston 02111	
497-8282	
Boston Asian Gay Men & Lesbians	
c/o Glad Day Bookshop, 43 Winter St.	
Boston, 02108	
542-0144	
Boston Gay Men's Chorus	
522-6983	
Boston Institute for Gay Studies	
Box 2750, Boston 02208	
491-8245 or 720-0693	
Boston Lesbian & Gay History Project	
c/o Interrante, 24 Greenwich Pk #1, Boston 02118	
Cauldron Exp. Theater, 22 Randolph St.	
542-8575	
Chiltern Mountain Club	
275-1336	
Box 104, 104 Charles St., Boston 02114	
El Comite Latino de lesbianas y homosexuais de Boston	
P.O. Box 365, Cambridge, 02139	
783-5250 or 354-1755	
Fathers in Transition (Gay/Bi),	
(Ex.Ctr.)266-0621	
c/o GCN, Box 6, 167 Tremont St., Boston 02111	
Gay and Lesbian Physicians of	
New England	
(617) 482-6874 or 247-5485	
Gay Professional Men's Group	
944-4818	
Gay and Lesbian Speakers Bureau,	
P.O. Box 2232, Boston 02107	
354-0133	
Lesbian and Gay Assoc. Engineers and Scientists	
(LGAES/Boston)	
P.O. Box 1417, Boston 02117	
288-3228	
Lesbian and Gay Folkdancing	
423-0942	
c/o GCN Box 5, 167 Tremont St., Boston, MA 02111	
424-1993	
Lesbian & Gay History Project	
426-9371	
Merrymount Music Soc.,	
Box 401, 104 Charles St. Boston 02114	
236-4888	
Outreach Institute, Box 368, Kenmore St., 02215	
277-3454	
Parents and Friends of Gays	
76 Brook Hill Rd. Milton, 02167	
436-5393	
Project Place, 32 Rutland St. 02118	
267-9150	
Transexual Hotline	
568-0680	
Triangle Theater, Box 127,104 Charles St., Boston 02114	
Watchline (Fri-Mon 7-10pm)	
262-5250	

POLITICAL/LLEGAL

Boston Lesbian & Gay Political Alliance, Box 65,	
Boston, 02117	
247-3910	
B.U. Gay and Lesbian Legal Association	
B.U. Law School, 755 Comm. Ave.	
Cambridge, Gay Political Caucus,	
c/o GCN, Box 2, 167 Tremont St., Boston, 02111	
742-8020	
Civil Liberties Union of Mass.	
GLAD (Gay & Lesbian Advocates and Delenders)	
100 Boylston Suite 900 Boston, 02116	
426-1350	
Harvard Committee on Gay and Lesbian Legal Issues	
Roscoe Pound Hall, Cambridge, 02138	
Lesbian/Gay Prisoner Project	
c/o GCN, 167 Tremont, Boston 02111	
262-1565	
Mass Gay Political Caucus	
Box 179, 118 Mass. Ave. Boston 02115	
National Lawyers Guild,	
14 Beacon St., Boston 02108	
227-7335	

STUDENT

Boston Intercollegiate Gay and Lesbian Alliance	
c/o GAMIT, Rm 50-306, Cambridge 02139	
Northeastern U. Lambda, 260 Eli Ctr.	
360 Huntington Ave., Boston 02115	
437-2738	
GAMIT (Gays at MIT),	
MIT 50-306 Walker, Cambridge 02139	
253-5440	
Harvard Radcliffe Gay and Lesbian	
Student Assoc., Harvard 197 Memorial	
Hall, Cambridge 02138	
495-5476	
Harvard Lesbian and Gay Medical/Dental Students Group	
Box 250c, 107 Ave. Louis Pasteur, Boston 02115	
Babson College, Gay and Lesbian Alliance	
Box A, Babson Park,Wellesley, 02157	
Tufts U. Gay and Lesbian Community,	
c/o Student Activities Off., Medford 02155	
628-2828	
Boston College G and L Support Group,	
Haley House, Chestnut Hill 02167	
Northeastern School of Law, Lesbian and Gay Caucus	
400 Huntington Ave, Boston 02115	
U/Mass/Boston, Lesbian and Gay Ctr.,	
Rm 1 4-178, Dorchester 02125	
929-8276	
Brandeis U. Triskelion, Box 2792 Waltham 02254	
Boston U., Gays and Lesbians,c/o Program Resources	
Off.	
Sherman Union, Boston 02215	
Yale Gay and Lesbian Alumni/Boston,	
c/o GCN Box 7, 167 Tremont, Boston 02111	
Wellesley Lesbians & Friends, Feminist Coop	
Oakwoods, Wellesley Coll. Wellesley MA 02151	

WOMEN

Aradia Counseling for Women, 520 Comm Ave	
(Kenmore Sq.)	
247-4861 x58	
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St	
Daughters of Bilitis, 1151 Mass. Ave.,	
Cambridge 02138	
661-3633	
Dyke Doctors (Lesbian Physicians, Med Students	
Health Profs)	
354 5910	
Gay Professional Women's Assn.,	
Box 308, Boston U Sta., Boston 02215	
723-6327	
Lesbian Lawyers and Legal Workers	
Lesbian Liberation, c/o Women's Center	
Lesbian S/M Group	
776-7957	
National Organization for Women	
99 Bishop Allen Dr., Cambridge 02139	
661-6015	
Somerville Women's Center, 1 Summer St., 02143	
628-6311	
Tufts Women's Center	
628-5000 x3184	
Women's Alcoholism Program,	
1348 Cambridge St. Cambridge 02139	
661-1316	

RELIGIOUS

Am Tikva	
P.O. Box 11, Cambridge, 02138	
782-8894	
Dignity, 355 Boylston St., Boston 02114	
Friends (Quaker) for Lesbian and	
Gay Concerns, 5 Longfellow Pk., Cambridge	
227-9118	
Integrity, P.O. Box 2582, Boston 02208	
262-3057	
Lutherans Concerned for Gay People	
Metropolitan Community Church	
Fr. Paul Shanley	
964-0996	
Unitarian Universalists Office of Lesbian/Gay Concerns	
25 Beacon St., Boston 02108	
742-2100	

MEDIA

Boston's Other Voice, WROR, 98 5FM	
Dennis	
353-0225	
Fag Rag	
661-7534	
Gay Community News	
426-4469	
Good Gay Poets	
661-7534	
Lesbian and Gay Media Advocates (LAGMA)	
c/o GCN, 167 Tremont, 02111	
542-5679	
Musically Speaking (WMBR 88 1FM, Sun 1-3)	
Melanie	
494-8810	
Women's Educ. Media, 47 Cherry St	
Somerville 02144	
666-0350	

MEDICAL/COUNSELING

AIDS Action Committee	
c/o Fenway Community Health Center	
16 Haviland St. 02115	
AIDS Hotline	
M-F 3-9pm Sat 10am-4pm	
536-7733	
Boston Free VD Info	
(8am-10pm, M-F)	
1-800-272-2577	
Alcoholics Anonymous	
426-9444	
Exodus Ctr., 25 Huntington Ave. 02116	
266-0612	
Gay & Lesbian Counseling Service	
542-5188	
Gay AlAnon (families of alcoholics)	
843 5300	
Tapestry Inc. 20 Sacramento St	
Cambridge 02138	
661-0248	
Tufts Skin Care Clinic (VD treatment)	
956 5293	

Eastern Mass. (617)

INFORMATION/SERVICE/SOCIAL

Central Middlesex Social Club,	
Box 470, Maynard 01754	
236-4882	
Frenz & Luvers, Box 623,	
Worcester 01601	
756-0730	
Gay Hotline	
Mass. Teachers Assoc./Gay Rights Caucus	
P.O. Box 75, New Salem 01355	
North Shore Gay and Lesbian Alliance	
Box 806, Marblehead, 01945	
745-3848	
Survival Crisis Line	
471-7100	
So. Shore Gay & Lesbian Alliance	
Box 712, Bridgewater 02324	
584-4997	
Tri-County Assoc., c/o 219 East Main St,	
Milford 01577	
473-3529	

RELIGIOUS

Dignity Merrimack Valley, P.O. Box 321, Methuen	
01844	
MCC Worcester, 2 Wellington St.,	
753-8360	

WOMEN

New Bedford Women's Clinic	
996-3341	
Origins, Inc., A Women's Center	
169 Boston St., Salem 01970	
745-5873	

STUDENT

Clark U. Gay Alliance, 950 Main, A-70	
Gay Outreach Assoc. for Lowell (Univ.) Students	
South Campus, Student Union Rm 348	
453-3804	
Salem State Gay Task Force	
Salem St. College, Salem 01970	
745-0556 (ext. 209)	

Western Mass. (413)

INFORMATION/SERVICE/SOCIAL

Berkshire County Gay Coalition, P.O. Box 1562,	
Pittsfield 01201,	
442-1819	
Lesbian and Gay Men's Counseling Collective	
406F Student Union, UMass, Amherst	
545-2645	
GALA (Gay And Lesbian Activists)	
Box 1084, Northampton 01061	
Help Line	
664-6391, 664-6392	
Pioneer Valley People's Gay Alliance	
Box 181, Northampton, 01061	
586-5979	
Dignity/Springfield, P.O. Box 1604 Springfield 01101	

WOMEN

Common Woman Club, 78 Masonic St.,	
Northampton 01060	
584-4580	
Everywomen's Center, Amherst	
545-0883	
Franklin Cty. Lesbian Alliance	
P.O. Box 235, Deerfield 01342	
545-3438	
Gay Women's Caucus, Amherst	
Lesbians United 33 Pearl St, Pittsfield, 01201	
499-2425	
New Alexandria Lesbian Library	
Box 402, Florence, MA 01060	
584-7616	
Southwest Women's Center	
545-0626	
Valley Lesbian Alliance	
665-4705; 253-3082, 774-5464	

STUDENT

Hampshire College Gay Men's Alliance	
Box 1355, Amherst 01002	
Lesbian & Gay Men's Counseling Collective	
406F UMass Student Union, Amherst	
545-2645	
Lesbian Union, 920 Campus Center,	
UMass, Amherst 01003	
545-3438	
People's Gay Alliance, 413 Student Union RSO 242,	
UMass Amherst 01003	
545-0154	
Williams Gay Peoples Union	
S.U. Box 3212, Williams College, Williamstown 01267	

Connecticut (203)

INFORMATION/SERVICE/SOCIAL

Black and White Men Together,	
58 Winchester Ave., New Haven 06511	
	562-2906, 933-0185
Conn. Gay Task Force, P.O. Box 1139, New Haven 06505	
Gay & Lesbian Alliance of Greater Danbury,	
c/o Box 258-Westconn, 181 White St. Danbury 06810	
Gay Switchboard, Hartford, M-S 1-11 pm,	
Sun 1-5 pm, P.O. Box 514, Hartford 06101	
	522-5575
Gay and Lesbian Switchboard, New Haven,	
P.O. Box 72, 06501; M-F 8-11 pm	
	624-6869
Gay Spirit (WWUH, 91.3FM) Thurs 8:30pm	
George W. Henry Foundation (counseling),	
45 Church St., Hartford 06103	
	522-2646
Greater Hartford Lesbian & Gay Taskforce	
Institute of Social Ethics/Gay National Archives,	
One Gold St., Suite 22 BC, Hartford 06103	
	547-1281

AY TASK FORCE: APUZZO INTERVIEWED

Our other programs include our Violence Project, our AIDS Crisis Line.

GCN: Talk about the AIDS Crisis Line.

APUZZO: We have the only 800 number in the country that's open roughly six hours a day to answer questions regarding AIDS. We have gotten enormous response to that. The people who respond on the Crisis Line are people who are trained by the Gay Men's Health Crisis. . .

We have taken information and have utilized our position as resource and attempted to respond immediately to questions that people have. I have testified before a congressional subcommittee on appropriations recently and the testimony, I feel, reflected what I've heard around the country about the concern for AIDS. John Boring is someone who is working full time in our office on AIDS. Right now one of the concrete things he's doing is following up the guideline recommendation sent out by the Social Security Administration regarding disability. . .

We have lobbied intensely the National Institutes of Health and the CDC [Centers for Disease Control]. We have tried to make CDC accountable for what actions it's taking and calling upon them to provide us with a program breakout. To date, we do not know what is being done, what the fiscal breakout is, what the professional staff is working on it, and the support staff for each research project is. I asked for that over two months ago. I then put it in writing to Dr. Brandt a month ago, and that's precipitated my letter to Heckler. The community wants to know what programs are being worked on. . .

We've really been at the forefront of the whole blood issue. I think we got on that early and we stood fast, saying, "Yes the gay and lesbian community has a responsibility in terms of public education and in terms of being aware." If we are at risk, then guiding people who are at risk not to donate blood. On the

Being a politician makes me in a sense more vulnerable to what the radical community is saying. I am keenly aware of what they say.

other hand, it should not be incumbent solely on the gay community to be responsible for this blood issue. The other half of the issue is for CDC and NIH to provide a test of surrogate markers so that we can test blood and not people.

GCN: Is NGTF doing anything inside the gay community besides the lobbying and advocacy about AIDS?

APUZZO: What we've done is to be as responsive as we could in terms of disseminating responsible information. So that way back when the Gay Men's Health Crisis first put its newsletter together and didn't have the money and the resources it has now, the Fund for Human Dignity sponsored a major part of the printing and then disseminated the booklet to anyone who asked for it free of charge and to anyone who we had any information on as being a health care provider on our membership list, which turned out to be a sizeable number of people.

We have tried to go around the country and respond to the public education function that NGTF has traditionally had. It's difficult with something about which there is so little concrete information.

GCN: What about the Violence Project?

APUZZO: The Violence Project is predicated on the notion that the Radical Right rhetoric has produced an atmosphere that is conducive to people feeling that they can just beat up gays and lesbians. So using the anti-gay violence line, which is the same number as the AIDS Crisis line, we have asked that gays and lesbians who are victims of violence report it to us. So we have attempted to quantify the violence, so that we can go to the media, as again has been the traditional NGTF role, to say that we're not just talking about violence in the abstract. These are the cases of violence that exist across the country. These are the numbers of gay and lesbian murders. This is the kind of bashing we've seen happen to women and men. And also put out as a result of that responsible information as to how one can avoid situations where violence is liable to occur. What is the profile of the victim as well as the person who perpetrates the crime.

What can we do now in terms of the police? So a new project, an outgrowth of the Violence Project, which I announced at the last NGTF Board meeting, is that we are working with the International Chiefs of Police to, one, get them to rescind their resolution not to hire gays and lesbians and, two, to work with police chiefs, like Chief Turner in Washington DC, who has a very positive working relationship with the gay and lesbian community there. . .

GCN: One project traditionally carried out by NGTF was the media advocacy. Can you talk about what you might want to do with that?

APUZZO: My feeling about the media is a little bit different than traditionally it has been. I think one of the things we have to acknowledge is that the media formulates opinion. So what I think we have to do is look at opportunities to get at opinion. So one of the things I did was that I looked at what anniversaries were coming up and saw that there was the 30th anniversary of the Eisenhower executive order. I commissioned a study around that and disseminated it to columnists and news personnel, and then called a press conference identifying the history, the data, and the contemporary issue. That one press conference and the research that went into it will probably have cost us less than \$1300 and yet there was an article in the Boston *Globe*, the Washington *Post* covered it, it was in *USA Today*, it was in AP and UPI across the country. . .

GCN: What other things do you think you might be planning?

APUZZO: Right now we're in the midst of a union survey, which is a natural outgrowth of our corporate survey of employment. This one is going to the unions and is asking the extent to which they're willing to put into their contracts, willing to support in grievance procedure lesbians and gays complaining of job discrimination. We feel that this is reaching a cross-section of gays and lesbians around the country — the working person, the union working person. I think the Task Force and the gay and lesbian movement has to acknowledge the working-class person in our movement. Vic Basile, who has worked with Bill Lucey and his union, is coordinating this union survey.

We're working with the US Conference of Mayors. [Boston mayoral liaison] Brian McNaught will assist us in putting together some of his experiences and some guidelines about what a liaison needs. Can you be a liaison and not have support staff? Can you be a liaison and not have a budget? What are the kinds of things that local communities now, based upon liaisons in Boston, New York, and in a couple of other cities, must know when they go to a candidate and ask to support a liaison to the community and ask for support staff, a budget? So now, based upon our experience, what can we share with the rest of the community? We'll also be using the US Conference of Mayors, which is meeting in Denver. We're sending Jeff Levy there and we'll be working with mayors like Mayor Barry and Mayor Feinstein to not only escalate the activity around AIDS, but also to look at things like model executive orders. like liaisons and what experience we have there, like the problem of violence against gays and lesbians, like employment, etc. So we'll be raising those issues in the context of mayors. . .

GCN: There's always been the question of NGTF's role vis-a-vis local organizations. Maybe another question of turf?

APUZZO: First of all, I think NGTF has gotten out of touch with the community. In the 25 weeks that I've been executive director of NGTF, I've been to probably 30 cities. They haven't been cities you'd think of. They've been Milwaukee, Birmingham, Atlanta, Indianapolis. I'm talking about where America lives. Trying to get to see what's happening in this community. Who are the leaders in this community? What are their programs? What role can we play? Do we have any role to play?

What I've gotten is that the groups want us involved and that they define our level of involvement differently than they did maybe five years ago. One of the things that the national gay and lesbian rights movement has to acknowledge is that the

I think white gay males are increasingly becoming aware of what it's like to become vulnerable. It's a lesson that is hard to learn and not easy to forget.

revolution in the movement has essentially occurred on the local level. We in the national arena have to serve local organizations effectively. Leading will mean serving in the '80s. How well we serve will determine how we'll be judged as leaders. That's what I think the criteria will be.

GCN: What do you mean by "serving"?

APUZZO: It means producing materials that they can utilize. Example. I just had lunch with people from the Massachusetts Gay Political Caucus. One of the things I said is that I met recently with Charles Stuart from International Black and White Men Together. And Charles made an excellent point. He said, "Do you in your role as spokesperson in the gay and lesbian rights movement say to the community, 'this percentage of the Black Caucus are supporters of the gay and lesbian rights bill; these black leaders across the country are supporters of gay and lesbian rights. The *Amsterdam News* has recently come out in favor of the NYC gay and lesbian rights bill.' To what extent do you highlight how much support comes from minority communities?"

GCN: Because the prevailing myth is that they're very conservative on this issue.

APUZZO: Exactly. And what he was saying is important. So what I said at lunch today is that I had spoken to Charles and we're going to put together a pamphlet that pulls it all together and shows how much support we're getting from minority communities for lesbian and gay rights. What are we doing to support the generic issue of oppression? . . .

GCN: What about the conflict for funds between NGTF and local organizations?

APUZZO: There are a number of ways to cut that. We had a grant recently to provide technical assistance to local organizations in fundraising. We had Michael Seltzer, who has worked with the Funding Exchange and who's co-chair of Lambda Legal Defense. Michael got us a grant that enabled him to go out and have three seminars with local groups, emphasizing women's and Third World groups, to show them how to write grants to break into the foundation world.

One of the things that the movement has had to do on its own is to subsidize itself out of our own pockets. As a civil rights movement, no other movement has taken so many people so far on its own. It's now time, and NGTF will be doing this as part of our program, to engage in a major project to educate the foundation world that speaks in its prospectus as dealing with human rights around gay and lesbian issues as human rights. And simultaneously providing technical assistance to local groups as to how to put those grants together, where you will be most receptive in getting a response. . .

GCN: What's your view on the role of lesbians at NGTF?

APUZZO: I think the level of involvement of women at NGTF has always been very high. My feeling is that there are more and more women coming into the gay and lesbian rights movement. We may have to look at self-definition in increasingly diverse ways because self-definition is a feminist principle. Women are increasingly making more and more options in terms of how to define themselves. There are professional women who are becoming involved in the movement. There are working-class women. There are movement women who have identified themselves in a spectrum of ways. NGTF has to look very closely, as does the whole movement, at how we are responding to women's needs. Right now I can-

Continued on page 15

It seems to me that one of the things that organizations have to do is to make a commitment to the community and not just to the organization.

FENWAY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

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Orgasmic

Continued from page 6

Three of the key creators — producer/director/writer Slava Tsukerman, writer/associate producer Nina V. Kerova, and cinematographer Yuri Neyman — are Russian emigres trained at the Moscow Film Institute. The third writer (who also plays the two main characters, Margaret and Jimmy) is American, but shares the emigres' view. Says Carlisle: "A friend of mine said that if we dubbed in a foreign language and sub-titled it, it would play better." And there is a certain truth to that. *Liquid Sky* is much more like the German films Americans are familiar with — Herzog, Fassbinder, Wenders — than like Hollywood, or even American independent films (which tend to project an individual viewpoint against the tyranny of Hollywood's homogeneous characters). In *Liquid Sky*, characters stand for a class of people and behave according to cultural mores rather than the quirky rules of an individual personality.

Ostensibly, *Liquid Sky* is about heroin-overrun new wave culture in Manhattan. It depicts a range of people who have rejected the bland suit-and-tie image that passes for "normal" in the mainstream culture. But their identities have become dictated by their "drag." The lesbian performance artist, for example, projects a strong, tough woman image on stage, but carries the negative qualities of her macho posturing into her life. This is a world of people who have quite clearly lost track of the difference between image and identity, art and life. They live their lives as performance, as a piece of art, and have become one dimensional. But lest we attribute this self-mutilation to punk, *Liquid Sky* gives us numerous mainstream characters who look "normal" but who have also fallen prey to their images, who also fail to separate projection from reality.

The plot goes something as follows: an alien lands on top of Margaret's apartment. The alien (which looks like a smoke alarm) lives on heroin, which Adrian, Margaret's lesbian lover (played by Paula E. Sheppard) sells. But the alien discovers something better: when humans have an orgasm, a substance similar to heroin is secreted in the brain. The alien teleports this substance and destroys the brain. As a favor to Margaret — "I can't have all these corpses lying around!" — the alien makes the body disappear. Thus, anyone who has an orgasm in this apartment dies. Predictably, and humorously, the various men (and eventually Adrian) who demand sex from Margaret "pop off," while Margaret, who doesn't want to have sex to begin with, and certainly doesn't have an orgasm over it, becomes terrified by her "killer pussy." She, of course, doesn't have the vaguest idea why this is happening and thinks the true feelings she has harbored are being expressed against her will.

While the plot is simple and absurd, the issues raised in *Liquid Sky* are not. This is a film about the search for a — for any — human identity in a world of

buildings, machines, and limiting sex and social roles. It attacks the visual commercialism that sells images and promotes the illusion that those images transform society into different classes of people denoted by different costumes. The main message of this film, if there is one, is that there *are* no safe identities, that *every* identity is a response to cultural values. Even images that seem to reject cultural values or pervert them by carrying them to an extreme are co-opted in the end by slick magazines.

Margaret and her gay friend

decides that the perfect end shot is of the two identical androgynes having sex. The crowd of assistants chants, "do it, do it" in the style of a Greek chorus. Margaret tries to cool him out; she knows that if he comes he will die. But his male socialization runs deep beneath his delicate exterior and Margaret resolves to play the role she knows best. These is some verbal s&m foreplay, she sucks him off, and he is zapped into oblivion by the alien.

Death by coming is part of *Liquid Sky's* humor, but makes a



Anne Carlisle in *Liquid Sky*.

Yuri Neyman

Jimmy (both played by Carlisle) are new wave fashion models. Although there are some other minor characters who are apparently gay-subculture identified, Margaret and, to some extent, Jimmy reject the idea of labeling themselves according to their sexuality. Margaret lives with her lesbian lover and is treated as a "dyke." Her rejection of labels comes from a profound nihilism and a dialectical understanding of roles and identity. This becomes explicit in a soliloquy near the end when she talks about being raised to believe she would be rescued by a prince. The construct of the prince changes — the lawyer in the suburbs, the theater agent in the city, the strong woman in a sexist world — but her relationship to that role did not change, and she is still a victim. In the end, each savior casts her into a new prison. This is an unconscious humanist challenge to gay liberation: can we be liberated from human psychic bondage by creating different roles? How far can an individual go in reconstructing his or her identity before the restrictions of social conditioning begin to determine that identity?

I asked Anne Carlisle how she became interested in androgyny: "When I first moved to New York, I was trying to understand who I was. For a time, I rejected all that I saw as feminine in myself. I worked as a bicycle messenger and had little social contact. That was when I became attracted to the new wave scene. I saw it as a place where people were trying to deal with sex roles, with androgyny, and deal with the narrow roles society had given them."

Liquid Sky's view of the possibility of breaking out of sex roles is dismal. While the most prominent character is a woman and the role of victim as experienced by women is most extensively explored, Carlisle emphasizes that the film is about men's roles, too. "I had never understood how men are trapped in their roles until I played Jimmy. I was really shocked at how differently people treated me when I played Jimmy — even the other women on the set. As Margaret, I was touched and pushed from shot to shot more. As Jimmy, I was asked if I was ready for the next shot." Jimmy is taunted into expressing a vicious and extreme macho posture with Margaret near the end. They are being photographed by a slick magazine whose director suddenly

profound reference to a cultural archetype. Death by orgasm is symbolic at specific points in the plot — in the end, Margaret uses her special power to murder a man who has raped her earlier — but as a device, it is intended to be ironic and funny. "Popping off" becomes quite literal in this world of science fiction travesty.

There is no sex (signified by mutually created orgasm, or rather, negatively signified by the creation of orgasm for anyone *but* Margaret). *Liquid Sky* is about the gradations of exploitation that women experience — from psychic to physical. (We also see the exploitation of gay men in Jimmy.) A shocking rape scene in the beginning makes the less clear-cut "date rape" scenes that follow seem like a kaleidoscope of lesser evils. But even while Margaret acts out her exploitation in the roles created for her, it is clear that she does not get pleasure from this "sex" or from the range of other victimizing relationships. Her decisions to fight up to a point and then accept her inability to stop the abuse is a sort of feminist nihilism: stopping *this* moment of exploitation won't lift her out of her role as victim, and she must make a choice about survival. She is un-heroic, her callous abrogation is an economic exchange in a culture that denies women power except through their bodies. This is a disturbing sub-text: we want Margaret to take control over her life, but that is an individual solution. Margaret stands for the class of women, and *Liquid Sky* is a film in which individual solutions — personal reconstructions of identity that lack social connection — are exhibited as failures.

Don't go to *Liquid Sky* expecting answers or explanations. It raises profound questions about being human, but it doesn't attempt to project political solutions. It is frustrating to see such a clear assault on gender roles and identities, and not be given a tidy solution. But the film does not permit despair or inaction. Rather, it begs a wry laugh and the courage to change our world against all odds. But above all don't wait until the alien lands on *your* roof.

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Candidates

Continued from page 1

All spoke throughout the rigidly-structured debate in the well-coached tones of those who have practiced their answers before a mirror, with stopwatch in hand. Only candidate Bob Kiley broke the monotony, with a direct question to Ray Flynn on the latter's opposition to court-ordered busing: "Whatever is wrong with Boston schools is that politicians, including people in this room, walked away from them.... In 1975... Ray Flynn and I stood at opposite ends of police lines. Ray, where do you stand tonight?"

Flynn never answered Kiley's question, but he later told the Boston *Globe* that in answering such a question "you lose your opportunity to speak on what you want to speak on."

* * *

There were fewer placards at the Clarendon Street YWCA the next evening, and reporters were in somewhat shorter supply as well. The Boston *Globe* sent a student intern. But all the candidates appeared save Michael Gelber, whose zeal to be heard apparently had its limits. Close to 400 women and men showed up to hear the candidates talk about discrimination and violence against women, city support for daycare and health care, and — most controversial of all — the right to abortion.

Former city council president Larry DiCara pledged to increase participation by women in city

Apuzzo

Continued from page 13

not say that NGTF has a resounding program that deals with women. I can assure you that we are doing everything we can to reach out to violence... It's not the same. The profile in violence looks, on the surface, as being overwhelmingly male. You scratch that surface and you begin to get into some really horrendous things that happen to lesbians, especially lesbians who can be identified readily as lesbians...

GCN: Perhaps the next crisis lesbians may be facing is the challenge against our having children by artificial insemination?

APUZZO: Yes, there are legal implications that I think most people haven't begun to think about. The time to think about it and to begin to develop some analysis is not after it's a problem.

GCN: Talk a little about the role of Third World women and men in the gay movement. It's been traditionally difficult for them to feel comfortable and for white people to welcome lesbian and gay Third World people in a way that makes sense.

APUZZO: First, I really want to underscore what I said earlier about Charles Stuart and his whole notion that it is incumbent on us as spokespeople to say that so much of our support comes from Third World representatives, the *Amsterdam News*, many, many religious leaders. The support is there and we have to acknowledge it. Then we acknowledge the very real risk that was taken early on to acknowledge the gay and lesbian rights movement as a civil rights movement. We are now, NGTF and GRNL, just this year admitted to the National Conference on Civil Rights. That is not only a right, it's a responsibility. We have now formally joined the civil rights community. It's incumbent upon us, now that the US Civil Rights Commission is under attack, to see that as us being under attack, along with our brothers and sisters who are Third World people.

government. "The first thing I will do as mayor will be to hire significant numbers of women," he said. DiCara also pledged to support daycare facilities "subsidized by the city of Boston for its employees, similar to the program run by the state at Ashburton Place."

DiCara said he opposed formation of a city commission on women, characterizing such a body as "crumbs off the table," and calling instead for appointments such as "a woman on that BRA [Boston Redevelopment Authority] Board, where there has never been one."

Responding to a question, DiCara said he was "on record as being in support of the Supreme Court decision *Roe v. Wade*... I do not believe that it is the right of any person in public life to impose his morals on people."

DiCara's answer was but one indication of the rhetorical adeptness the candidates have acquired in the course of the campaign. DiCara never found it necessary, as he had in an earlier interview with *GCN* (Vol. 11, No. 2), to qualify his otherwise strong statement in favor of abortion rights with mention that he is personally opposed to abortion. Questioned later by *GCN* in a brief interview in the YWCA lobby, DiCara reaffirmed his personal view, but said he would not, as a matter of principle, stand in the way of any woman's right to have one.

City councillor Ray Flynn, well-known for his past opposition to busing, abortion, the Equal

In the areas of hiring, NGTF has to understand the fact that we must have people on staff who are Third World people, Asians, Hispanics, as well as Blacks. It's unfortunate now that I'm in a situation where I can't be hiring. But I assure you that it's a commitment I have. It's a commitment that we discussed very carefully with the Women's Caucus. The Women's Caucus was acutely aware of the necessity to respond to this...

GCN: You stated in a speech that you were worried that we would go from "gay pride to gay power to gay smug." What did you mean?

APUZZO: I think the fundamental question that the gay and lesbian community has got to respond to, and women I think grappled with the germ of the question early on, is what is the power for?

Continued on page 16

Rights Amendment and gay rights, had a more difficult time with the question, though his answer did not seem substantially different than DiCara's. "I have never once in my term on the city council offered an [anti-abortion] amendment to the city hospital budget," Flynn told a questioner, "even though I am opposed to abortion... because the Supreme Court of the United States has spoken on that case."

As a state representative, however, Flynn co-sponsored legislation which withdrew state funding for abortion. And in the city council, Flynn did sponsor a resolution proclaiming "Pro-Life Day" in Boston. "You understand," he explained, "that there are many resolutions that are introduced in the city council... and they go by the city council unanimously."

Flynn said that despite his continued opposition to abortion and busing, he has liberalized his positions on the ERA and gay rights. "I like to think that I got to understand a lot of things differently as I got older, as I got married," Flynn said. "I have changed my positions on a lot of issues, and not because of political opportunism."

Flynn took a lot of criticism at the forum, both in the form of well-aimed questions and in flurries of hisses, boos and murmurs. But following his concluding remarks, in which he asked the audience "to respect the fact that on major economic issues affecting women in this city I do not take a back seat to any other candidate," Flynn received significant applause from a delegation of women wearing "Women for Flynn" buttons.

Former state representative Mel King had merely to approach the podium to trigger a thunderous, foot-stomping ovation from the crowd. After the forum, the ovation translated into an endorsement by the Massachusetts Women's Political Caucus, following a brief meeting by that group at a restaurant across the street.

"I think the problem that needs to be talked about is the role of men and sexism in this society,"

King said, and went on to express support for a women's commission, access to abortion, improved health care, affirmative action, and lesbian and gay rights. King also pledged that as mayor, he would work to "organize and mobilize people in the city of Boston against the [Massachusetts] Human Life Amendment." That amendment will probably appear as a referendum on the 1984 state ballot.

"When all candidates come to address you because of the power in this coalition, we're winning. When racism and sexism are becoming so unacceptable in this city that a candidate can't move fast enough away from his past racist and sexist stands, we are winning."

Former school committee president David Finnegan, considered the frontrunner in the race, said in his opinion "abortion is wrong and I try not to support those things I believe are wrong... I don't think the principal job of the mayor of Boston has to do with abortion."

Socialist Workers Party candidate Eloise Linger, who identified herself as the only woman, the only single parent, and the only parent with a child in the Boston public schools running for mayor declared that "women are going to have to organize and break politically, and are going to have to not give support to any candidate who does not represent us. And as far as I'm concerned, that's every Democratic Party politician."

Linger called for the building of a socialist government which would offer free health care including the right to have an abortion, free community-controlled daycare, and a 51 percent hiring quota for women in the city. Asked how the government would finance such programs, Linger noted that the residents of Boston will pay \$855 million in federal taxes in 1983, "taxes that go for nothing but the military machine... Do you realize what we could do in health care with \$855 million?" she asked.

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Apuzzo

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It's a question I intend to raise as often as I can. Is the power to just make it OK to be gay or is the power to empower? If we go for gay and lesbian power so that we empower, then we will speak to the generic issue of oppression. If we go for the power just to have power so that we can be smug about having power, then we have done what other oppressed groups have done, we have moved from being oppressed to being an oppressor.

GCN: When we empower, what are we doing?

APUZZO: When we empower we are truly dealing with the objectives of liberation. When we empower, when we say, "We are the disabled, we are the aged, we are the youth, we are the Black, the Asian, we are the Russian im-

migrant, we are, we are..." When we say that and we put ourselves there I think we're empowering. And then I think we say our struggle is not finished with a piece of gay rights legislation. Our struggle is not finished until there is no more oppression. Until we put ourselves on the line with all that oppression, as women have done in the lesbian-feminist context consistently.

GCN: Is that a concern about ghettoization of gay people?

APUZZO: It's a concern that's ghettoization of a mentality. The mentality of gay liberation cannot end with gay white males being liberated. The liberation will not come until if you are an aged Black or a young Hispanic or a female... If we're everywhere, then our oppression is in every corner.

GCN: Do you see something like that happening in San Francisco,

where there is a large concentration of well-to-do white gay males?

APUZZO: ...who are dying. Who have to think about the possibility of dying. Death is the ultimate leveler. I think that one of the things that white gay males are learning, tragically, is that politics is not a dilettante endeavor. It's not something that you do because it's chic. It's something that women knew for a long time. You don't have the option to be politically involved. When you are oppressed, it's an imperative. I think white gay males are increasingly becoming aware of what it's like to become vulnerable. It's a lesson that is hard to learn and not easy to forget.

What does the AIDS crisis mean? It means that the government thinks it can afford to disregard a group that it has disenfranchised. Let's look at all the groups that the government has

disenfranchised. Now it's important to bring to our brothers the knowledge that this is what being disenfranchised is doing to you. It is doing this.

GCN: There's certainly a potential for that realization. There's also another side to the potential and that is the ranking of oppression. To say because I am vulnerable it's more important than your oppression.

APUZZO: That's bullshit. If I'm in pain and you're in pain, the most we can say is that we're both in pain. I can't play that game of I'm more oppressed than you.

GCN: What do you say when lesbians point to their struggles with, for example, custody, and talk of the unwillingness of gay men to really join in that fight. Why then should they care about AIDS?

APUZZO: One of the things we were talking about with custody was the capacity to redefine family. The definition of family was an integral part of the custody struggle and the definition of family means that we have the right and the responsibility and the obligation to see ourselves in newly-defined relationships. We can't cut off half the population. Women can't do that. Lesbians have reason to be angry and disappointed...

GCN: What do you say to the charges that you're a politician who's going to align NGTF with the Democratic Party?

APUZZO: I have my First Amendment rights to speak on issues. But I would ask you to look at the overtures that the previous administration of NGTF had two years to make and they have done nothing. And in 25 weeks I've managed to reach out to the Reagan administration in three different areas. I worked very closely with the AIDS group in New York and urged them to establish contact with Bill Green, who's a Republican. I feel a particular responsibility to anticipate that question from my Republican brothers and sisters and I'm keenly aware of it.

GCN: Or more radical, or socialist gays?

APUZZO: Being a politician makes me in a sense more vulnerable to what the radical community is saying. I am keenly aware of what they say. Personally I have been involved in the Democratic Party. I have said repeatedly and directly to governors and mayors that I see political parties as a vehicle. If I want to get over there I may walk, I may take a car, I may take a train, I may take an airplane. If I

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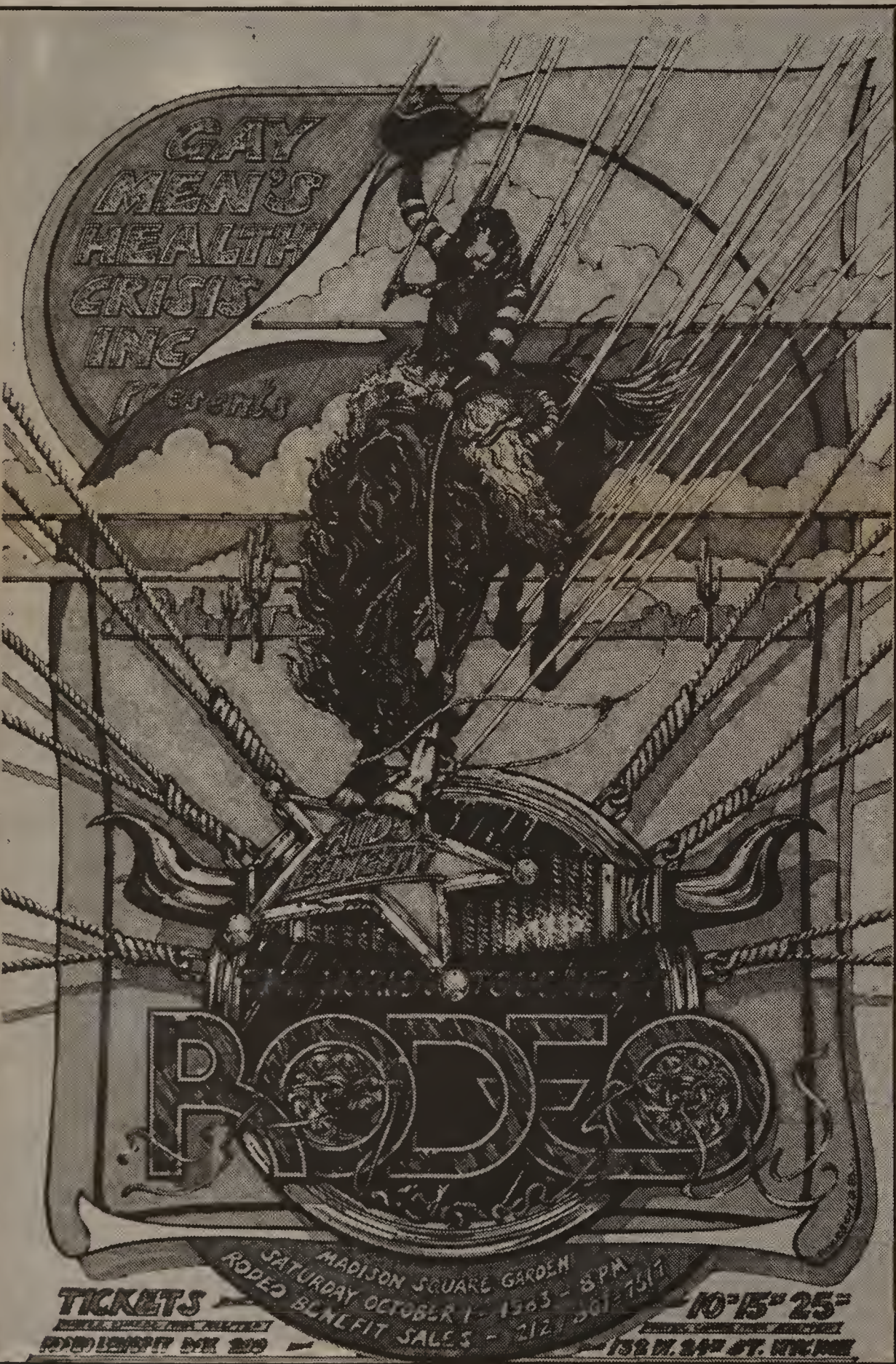
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Apuzzo

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want to get over there, I'm going to get over there in the vehicle that gets me there. And I see political parties as providing vehicles. I don't fall in love with candidates, I fall in love with issues. I take vehicles to get those issues.

GCN: Do you feel that you'll be with NGTF a while longer?

APUZZO: I don't have a contract. I'm not interested in having a contract. When the community is finished with me, they'll let me

know. I'm eager to see NGTF through this period of crisis and transition. You've got to know when to go. Do I see myself there another year? Sure. Do I see myself there for five years? I don't think so. I would like to build it to its next level of potential and then hope we can get someone in there who can take it.

GCN: What about through the 1984 elections?

APUZZO: Oh yeah. That's next year. It is the National Gay Task Force. It should not become so closely identified with a single person that it loses the organizational

multifacetedness that it must have to serve effectively.

GCN: I think that was what happened during the first transition.

APUZZO: That it was so closely aligned with Bruce and Jean?

GCN: That it was very difficult to pick it up again.

APUZZO: Yeah. The transition has been difficult. But the staff and the volunteers have been phenomenal. That crisis forced the articulation of a new equation in terms of organizations and what will determine what happens to them. Previously I think we thought that if this little anonymous group of board of directors decided what they

wanted to happen, then that would be it. In this crisis that wasn't the case. It was a new equation that was born. It was the volunteers, the members, the press, the Board of Directors. All of it factored in for other organizations a new equation. I think that's good. I think it moves the movement ahead.

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Looking for puff-loving carnivorous roomies with two adorable kitties and an apt in Harvard Sq.? 2 hi-tech dykes looking for a third to share our rent-controlled 3rd floor apt. Room is small, but so is rent. \$130 includes utilities. Jade and Catherine, 354-7457. (c)

NASHUA, NH
GWM, 36, has master bdrm avail now in 2 bdrm apt. Your rent 225/mo w/ all util except phone. Call Paul after 6 pm (603) 882-7746. (8)

MELVILLE PARK, DORCH
Share 7 rm apt quiet safe area nr stores & Shawmut Red Line. 2 porchs yard w&d dw disp redeck Vict. Lease avail 9/1. \$265 inc util. Pref quiet neat respons GM Pls no cigs or pets. 288-3228 B4 10 PM lv msg. (7)

Two gay men seeking comfortable, affordable home in Cambridge area beginning August. Call and leave a message for Jeremy at GCN 426-4469 or Glad Day 542-0144. Thanks. (PS: This is *not* for Jeremy, but for friends of his. OK, gossips?)

Brkline/Brighton — BiF & LF sk 3rd person 22+ for 3½ bdrm apt nr 3 green lines, \$260/mo inc ht & worth it. Sorry no pets/cigs; we're semi-veg. Obsessives & neurotics need not apply. We've already lived w/you. Anyone else is welcome! Nancy/Lucy 566-5310. Keep trying, please. (50)

NICE JEWISH LESBIAN
Sks LF for beautiful 2 br JP apt nr T & JP Licks. Wood flrs, 2 porches, 2 cats. I'm responsible, considerate, & clean. Want same. Sense of humor a plus. \$175 + util. 522-2059. (6)

Watertown, GM prof sks intel GM for spacious, 2nd fl, 2 bdrm duplex on quiet st nr Charles Riv & T. \$225 + util. Avail 9/1. 923-9440. Please keep trying. (7)

5 LFs sk 1 more for home in Allstn. Garden, w/d, pkgng, T. Please no more pets. 150 + . Avail Sept 1. 254-0448. (7)

LF 28 sks warm stable LF for nice apartment nr Inman Sq own 2 rms. Please no smokers/pets. 200 + gas/elec. Avail immed. 625-5934 keep trying. (7)

REAL ESTATE

CAPE COD
Truro condominiums in the woods: newly renovated, 1 to 5 rms, seasonal & year-round. Near beaches & village center. \$20,000 to \$70,000. Call Management Unlimited, Inc. (617) 349-6516. (7)

RESORTS

NEW YORK

SPENDING A WEEKEND IN NYC?
Stay at Womyn's Bed & Breakfast located central Manhattan. Private bdrm, shared bath. \$18 single, \$20 double. Reservations: (212) 794-8645. (9)

MASSACHUSETTS

P'TOWN'S NEWEST WOMYN'S
Dble rms shared bath coffee huge common rm BBQ parking 5 mins walk to Pied & Bay. Call Check'Er Inn (617) 487-9029, 25 Winthrop P'Town. MA J2657 Guest House & apts by the week. (10)

Clean, Comfortable, Inexpensive
Convenient To All, Friendly
CARL'S GUEST HOUSE
68 Bradford, P'Town, MA 02657
(617)487-1650
April thru November

VERMONT

GREENHOPE FARM
VT Lesbian retreat. 3½ hrs from Boston. Secluded camping in our maple sugar grove. High views, campfires, berry picking, nearby waterfal. Cozy in-house rms. Meals offered. Fall foliage begins mid-Sept. (802) 533-7772. (7)

VERMONT GUESTHOUSE
Spend a wkend in VT this Autumn. Foliage, flea mkts, walks in the woods. Bed & bkfst for lesbians & gay men—\$80/ couple per weekend only. Reserv please. Dave & Mike, (802) 348-7840.

MAINE

Buccaneer clean comfortable inexpensive private bath TV 40 ft htd indoor pool weights pool table convenient to stores beach restaurants antique shops factory outlets MC VISA MX Ogunquit Rt 1 Wells ME (207) 646-2140. (7)

THE CAPTAIN PROSSER INN
Invites you to spend a weekend in Down East Maine (Camden, Boothbay, Bar Harbor, Portland) while staying in Historic Waldoboro. Doubles \$35-50. Wkly rates thru Fall. Reservations: (207) 529-5292 & 832-7666. (9)

SERVICES

QUICK RELEASE MOVERS
Experienced, reliable, reasonable. Professional packing & loading of households & offices. Local or long distance. Call (617) 497-2246. (7)

HOUSECLEANING BOSTON AREA
Home, Condos, Apt, Office
Have References
Call James 782-7615. (15)

GAY MEN'S THERAPY GROUP
Has openings. Focus is on self-awareness, intimacy, & relationships. For info call Francis Giambrone 628-6988

Counseling for Individuals,
Couples and Groups
Career Assessment
BELLVILLE ASSOCIATES
Copley Square
(617) 739-7803

Chair caning & furniture refinished
good work reasonable rates cal Pirtor
@ 646-4474 after 6 pm. (9)

APARTMENTS

Malden, 4 rm apt avail Sept 15 in Victorian hse nr MBTA. Bay winds hw fls, mod k&b, frig. Pref quiet person(s). No dogs. \$425 inc heat & hw. 324-2279 eves. (7)

BOSTON SOUTH END
Cheerful housekeeping rm in twnhse nr City Hospital \$280 rms inc. Quiet mixed bldg (617) 269-7221. (8)

BOSTON-ROSLINDALE APT
Mod 1 bdrm apt off Cummins Hwy full kit, ample closets, free pkgng, MBTA. Quiet bldg ideal for mature single, cple, or elderly. Rent fr \$306 inc heat, hot water, cooking. 2 bdrm avail soon fr \$335 (617) 327-4810 weekdays 9am-5pm. (8)

In town, convenient quiet nbhd, modernized 2 br, owner-occ 3 decker, JP-W Roxbry-Rdale border; major bus connection Green, Red & Orange lines. Joe 469-3054. (7)

APARTMENT FOR RENT
Brighton 2 bdrm apt in 2 fam, 6 rms, yard, new kitch, washer/dryer, no pets. LF pref nr Oak Sq, hdwd flrs, \$580 unhtd. 783-2561 avail 9/1. (7)

SOUTH END—CITY HOSPITAL
Spacious, older, 3 bdrm apt avail 9.1 \$600/mo inc heat. Possible exchange rent for painting. Jay, 262-4896 eves keep trying till 11 pm. (8)

Dorchester, Mtghouse Hill, Mt Ida Rd, genteel renovated 2 bdrm ocean view, oak flrs, white walls, natural wood. \$400 unhtd. Call owner eves 265-1178. (7)

Lesbian owned hse for rent Spacious 8 rms. Cheap heat. Nr T. Washer/dryer Mtg Hse Hill, Dorch. Short term lease. \$450/mo + utils. 282-9388. (7)

DORCHESTER 5 BEDROOMS
10 rm apt nr T (Shawmut/Redline) gay owned/occupied integrated nbhd needs some painting \$600/mo first & last unheated. 265-0348. (8)

HOME WANTED

Seeking living space in exchange for lgt housekeeping and/or cooking and/or secretarial serv: Alan, 253-7062 (work) or 720-0649 (home). (7)

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Five hours every Sat. Help with renovation of S End house, painting, patch, sheetrock, minor carpentry cleaning misc jobs call John 247-1238. (7)

2 Gay Real Estate Brokers Seek Partner. We have extensive Beacon Hill rental listings; getting into sales—Boston & Cambridge. We need a partner w/ broker's lic, exp pref, ideally w/ own listings, or willing to work hard for new listings. Should have another good source of income & be willing to work part time 10-15 hrs per week. Box 150, 104 Charles St, Boston, MA 02114. Resume & refs requested. (7)

FLORAL DESIGNER
Framingham florist needs experienced design help. Must be versatile & good with public. Call Mike (617) 872-4949 for interview. (8)

FT staff person needed for Boston Mobilization for Survival. Pos inc administrative, outreach, organizing skills for large, active disarmament & social justice org. *Organizing exp in women's community req.* \$180/wk + benefits. Resume to: Mfs, 727 Mass Ave, Cambridge, MA 02139. (7)

L exp in rest busines shrt order grill wait, prep & full cook combination of above pref. PT & sub respond to GCN Box 707. (8)

BOSTONIAN MARKET
Full & part time positions open. Some exper & good references req'd. College bkgrnd or trade school preferred. 267-3109 for appt. (8)

Mother of LF 70. seeks responsible caring, live-in companion Rm & bd + sal Cooking lt hskpgg Refs req GCN Box 701 (7)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Gay & Lesbian Counseling Services Fundraising, fiscal & personnel management, public, media, governmental relations; planning & evaluation Resume, salary history to: GLCS Search Committee 80 Boylston St. Suite 855, Boston, MA 02116. (8)

TYPESETTER
Part or full-time for small growing shop near MIT. CG Editwriter experience preferred, but will train intelligent, self motivated people with word processing experience or 60 wpm typing Phil, 661-6975.

PART-TIME OFFICE CLERK
Lesbian and gay law firm looking for part-time office help. Filing, messenger work, other general office duties Decent typing skills required. 15 hours per week. Call Cindy Rizzo, 426-2021.

ORGANIZATIONS

WOMEN'S RUGBY
The Boston Women's Rugby Club is looking for new members. No experience necessary. Practices Wed 6:30-8:30 Fernald State School, Wal-tham. For more info call Chris 522-5573, 969-0170 or Debbie 569-3116. (7)

GAY MEN'S COVEN
Gay sharing positive energies in a Gardnerian Wicca context. Monthly meetings for new men as well as initiation directed study. Groups in NYC & Seattle. Kathexis Anthropos Coven, Box 4538, Sunnyside, NY 11104. Member Covenant of the Goddess. (7)

N AMER MAN/BOY LOVE ASSOC
A support group for intergenerational relationships. For information send \$1 to: NAMBLA — GCNAD, PO Box 174, New York, NY 10018. (48)

Group for Lesbian Couples. For information call (617) 366-8576. To begin in fall. (8)

GAY LESBIAN AND JEWISH?
Am Tikva welcomes you. Activities include religious observances, discussions, potluck dinners, folk dancing, etc. For events, check GCN Calendar, call (617) 782-8894 or write PO Box 11, Camb, MA 02238.

PUBLICATIONS

LESBIAN EROTIC IMAGES
Yantras of Womanlove by Tee Corinne — a beautiful and compelling book, 64 pages, \$7 total from Naiad Press—G, Box 10543, Tallahassee, FL 32302. (11)



TO ALL THOSE WHO IN AND OUT OF PRISON FIGHT AGAINST THEIR BONDAGE (Alexander Berkman, *Prison Memoirs of an Anarchist*).



I am an assertive femme who enjoys a stimulating conversation, political and radical topics, and women who look towards resolutions. Also am an artist and writer and enjoy creative as well as intellectual people. Please share a sincere and rewarding encounter with me. Terri MEYETTE, 43376, PO Box 3400, Goodyear, AZ 85338.

Lonely woman 26 seeking correspondence with serious minded friend. Please send picture if you can. I will too. Fun to be with. cindy HALL, 837584, PO Box 147-170, Lowell FL 32663.

LEILA PROCK! Your friend D. Nardini, 357 Ridge, Elmhurst IL 60126, would very much like to hear from you. Please write!



GCN GAY AND LESBIAN PRISONER PROJECT

We send free papers, books (when they are donated and when money for postage is donated) and run free penpal ads. (There's sometimes a long waiting list because of limited space.) Little by little as we get more volunteer labor power we'll be looking for other ways to support lesbians and gay men behind bars. If you can help with your time or a contribution (of money or paperbacks), please send to Gay and Lesbian Prisoner Project, c/o GCN, 167 Tremont St., 5th Fl., Boston, MA 02111. Thanks!

Dark and lovely, passive and sexy, age 32, wants to correspond with witty, conservative, sexy woman. Jeannetta JOHNSON, CIW-W18287, Miller A/42 U, Frontera CA 91720.

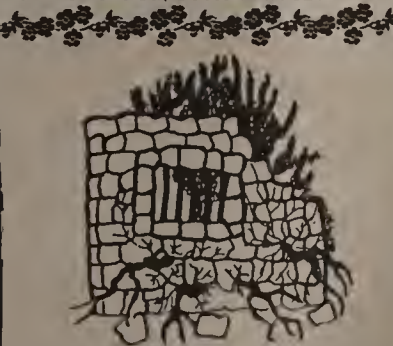
Down and lonely stud, 23 years old, wants comfort from sweet-hearted fem. Lisa SMITH, CIW-W17486, Miller A/29L, Frontera CA 91720.

I would like to compliment your staff on its perspective, that you don't get from the standard press, one that clarifies much of the ambiguous stuff you see in the mass media. I would like to write someone who doesn't mind writing a prisoner. Also could you please tell Jay PITZER., K. MOORE, and J.W. SUTTON that I didn't get any reply from them and I'd like to. D.C. HARRIS, 76B1254, 135 State St., Auburn NY 13021.

PRISONER PROJECT NOTE: *Pitzer, Moore and Sutton are prisoners at other institutions and very often prisoners are not allowed to write each other, no matter what the content of the letters. The basis for this is the great fear prison officials have of prisoners forming some kind of unions which the guards couldn't break up as easily as they can in the case of those who are under their direct control. Divide and conquer. If Pitzer, Moore and Sutton want to write GCN, their letters will be forwarded.*

NOTE TO PRISONERS: SINCE WE HAVE ONLY A LIMITED NUMBER OF PAPERS TO SEND OUT TO PRISONERS, PLEASE DON'T ASK FOR A COPY FOR YOURSELF IF YOU CAN READ ONE THAT SOMEONE ELSE THERE IS GETTING. THANKS!

Editor of GAYCON Newsletter has been getting harassed for his publication and has been forced to go underground (where it is hard to earn \$). If you would like to support his continuing efforts, please send to: GCN Prisoner Project, 167 Tremont St., Boston MA 02111.



I will be going to Illinois soon and am looking for a person who is a rail fan or employee, into rock and/or country music, honest and who likes the out of doors. I also like social events but now that I quit drinking the bar scene could be hazardous. I do not expect to build a relationship overnight but want to get to know someone little by little. Ken NEVERMAN, 80936, PO Box 316, Ft Madison IA 52627.

Caring black man interested in transgenerational relationships, but also with men. Hobbies include bicycling, swimming, camping, country music. Non-drinker. Looking to move to So. Cal. eventually and could use some help looking for a job and a place to live. Duane BORDEN, C-25854 Rm 7338, PO Box A-E, SLO CA 93409.



Prisoners Seeking Friends

Readers (inside and out): Almost all ads are taken from much longer letters which we cannot print in full in the free space GCN has provided. Even so, there's usually a waiting list of 3 to 6 weeks and ads usually only run once or twice (unless we can't get new ones done because of other work).

I am seeking friends who are interested in sports, music, theatre, partying and having a good time. James BAYT, C-18132, PO Box A-1215, SLO CA 93409.

I am writing this letter in response to what I saw in GCN about prisoners writing things and doing art work for the paper. Well I got a few ideas if you want to hear them and I'm willing to help out as much as I can with sketches and drawings. I wonder if you could run me an ad in the penpal section so I can meet someone to write me. Thanks. Tony DRYDEN, 17789, PO Box 14, Boise ID 83707.

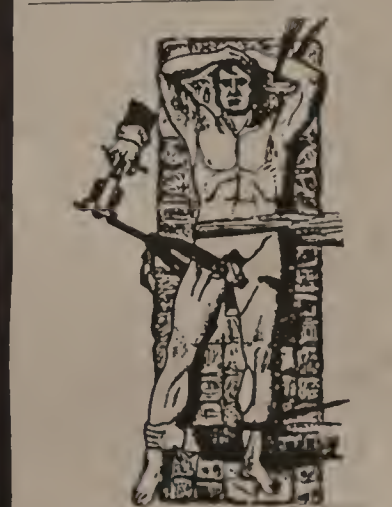
Hi out there! My friends call me Stacy. I'm a Libra and lonely, and if any of you men out there need a friend as I do, feel free to write me. I'm country with a little, city thrown in. Thomas BRIMER, 066283, PO Box 158 H-19, Lowell FL 32663.

Thanks for the copy of GCN - it got thru without any hassle. I got about a dozen requests during the last three hours about reading it so it will be well circulated around here. I'd love to correspond with one of your readers I'm a masculine gay and would like to hear from someone who's caring and sincere. I need a friend. Rodney AR-CHAMBAULT, 138820, 1301 Franklin Houston TX 77002.

I am in real hopes of finding someone out there to write to. I am nice in heart and in looks. I like volleyball and running and most of all old movies. David Allen YATES, 158294, PO Box E Jackson MI 49204

I was reading your last week's paper and was emotionally touched by the characters involved. It expressed passion and sincerity and I began to lust for love and attention, which there is not much of in here. Since it aroused my sensual attention, I began to masturbate and enjoyed my fulfillment. Just a touch of fantasy. What I'm really writing about is if I can get a penpal. I'm a truck driver by occupation. Boating and swimming are my main hobbies. John ROBINSON, PO Box 57, 169-429, Marion OH 43302.

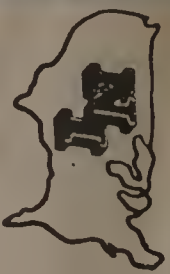
Artist seeks correspondence with anyone who cares to write. I enjoy reading, sports and most music. Good health to you, and thanks for the GCNs every week! Amos BLAND, 076644, PO Box 1100, Avon Park FL 33825.



I am a gay guy that likes S&M, and I am looking for some master out on the streets to write me in here I would like to parole to NYC some day if I can Dwain RASMUSSEN, C-55880, PO Box 2000 N-317, Vacaville CA 95696.

I enjoy boating, dancing, the outdoors and wish to hear from any gay man who'd like to share some of his time with a prisoner who's d'sperate for a little attention and any thing else. Michael Monk JONES, 304891 Ellis, Huntsville TX 77340





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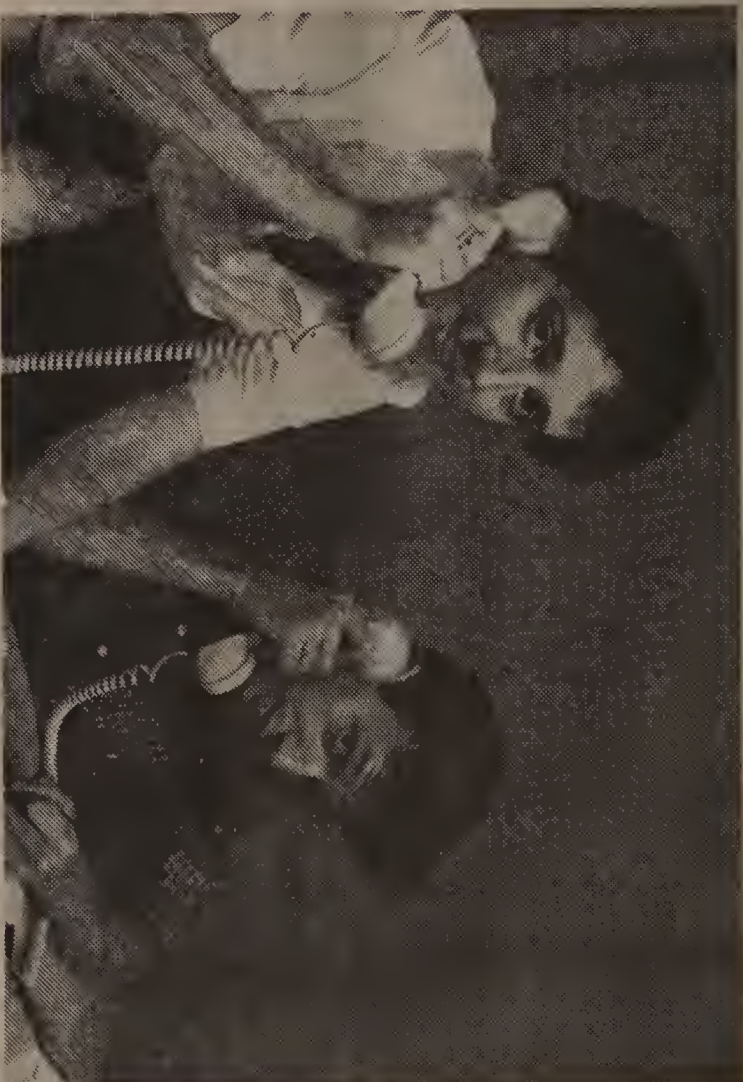
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